



Quality, Equity, Dignity

A Network for Improving Quality of Care  
for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health

**Updates - July 2021**

## **NEW RESOURCES**

### **Human Resources for Health-Related Challenges to Ensuring Quality Newborn Care in Low- and Middle-Income Countries: A Scoping Review**

This scoping review mapped the evidence of human resources for health (HRH)-related challenges to providing quality facility-based newborn care into 10 categories (lack of HRH data and monitoring; poor health worker (HW) preservice education; lack of HW access to evidence-based guidelines, continuing education, and continuing professional development; insufficient and inequitable distribution of HWs and heavy workload; poor retention, absenteeism, and rotation of experienced staff; poor work environment, including low salary; limited and poor supervision; low morale, motivation, and attitude, and job dissatisfaction; weaknesses of policy, regulations, management, leadership, governance, and funding & structural and contextual barriers). Mapping the evidence provided useful insight to inform recently published World Health Organization strategies to systematically address the challenges and strengthen HRH for newborn care globally and nationally. The thematic analysis process also underscored the complicated interactions between different types of HRH challenges. Findings support new strategies for action to address these challenges. See : <https://www.ghspjournal.org/content/9/1/160>

Click here to access the [Spanish](#) and [French](#) translations.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

## World Breastfeeding Week (August 1-7)

World Breastfeeding Week is celebrated from 1-7 August 2021 to raise awareness for the importance of breastfeeding. See the Healthy Newborn Network website for webinars to be hosted during the week:

<https://www.healthynewbornnetwork.org/event/world-breastfeeding-week/>

- **Building Better Breastfeeding Counselling Programmes** hosted by the Global Breastfeeding Collective on 3 & 4 August 2021. [Click here for more information.](#)
- **Human Resources for Care of Small and Sick Newborns: The Role of Midwives and Nurses in Protecting, Promoting, and Supporting Breastfeeding** hosted by the Care of the Small and Sick Newborn Community of Practice, 4 August 2021. [Click here for more information.](#)

## UPCOMING NETWORK WEBINAR

### Nurturing care for every newborn: ensuring every newborn survives and thrives

Coming soon!

Join us for the launch of the Thematic Brief *Nurturing care for every newborn* to hear the updated knowledge and country experiences when implementing policies and programmes to ensure nurturing care for every newborn. The new brief summarizes why nurturing care is essential for every newborn and how maternal and newborn health services can enable a nurturing environment. It outlines the five components of nurturing care and contains examples of practical actions to create and strengthen nurturing environments for newborns, including those who are born too soon, small or sick.



## NETWORK WEBINARS DURING JULY 2021

The recordings and presentations from the Network webinars in July 2021 are available by clicking the link:

- [Sierra Leone National forum: Lessons from implementing and scaling up quality of care for maternal and newborn health](#)
- [Transforming care for small and sick newborns: New evidence on Kangaroo mother care](#)

The Network for Improving Quality of Care for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (Quality of Care Network) works to ensure that every pregnant woman and newborn receives good quality care throughout pregnancy, childbirth and the postnatal period, with the ambitious goal to halve maternal and newborn deaths and stillbirths in health facilities within five years in the participating countries.

The Network is led by countries that are already taking leadership to improve quality of care in health services: Bangladesh, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, and Uganda. More countries are expected to join the Network. It is backed by the World Health

Organization, UNICEF and UNFPA, and supported by a growing partnership of development organisations, NGOs, professional associations and universities.

It is underpinned by the values of quality, equity and dignity and contributes to achieving the targets of the *Every Woman Every Child Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health*.

[www.qualityofcarenetwork.org](http://www.qualityofcarenetwork.org)

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