



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

## Updates - October 2021

### Network webinars in November 2021

#### Ghana: Lessons from the National Learning Forum for quality of care for maternal and newborn health

Thursday, 4 November 2021

6:30pm New Delhi, 2pm Geneva, 1pm Accra, 9am New York

[REGISTER](#) and add to your calendar  
[REQUEST](#) to join the QoC for MNCH Community of Practice

In September 2021, as part of the 3rd National Patient Safety and Healthcare Quality Conference 2021, The Ministry of Health, Ghana and Ghana Health Service hosted a National Learning Forum to discuss progress and share examples and experiences of implementing Quality Care for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health.

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**GHANA**  
LESSONS FROM THE NATIONAL LEARNING FORUM  
FOR QUALITY OF CARE FOR MATERNAL AND  
NEWBORN HEALTH

Thursday, 4 November 2021 at 2pm Geneva, 1pm Accra

[REGISTER](#) and add to your calendar: [bit.ly/GhanaNF2](https://bit.ly/GhanaNF2)  
[REQUEST](#) to join the QoC for MNCH CoP: [bit.ly/joinCoP](https://bit.ly/joinCoP)

In September 2021, as part of the 3rd National Patient Safety and Healthcare Quality Conference 2021, the Ministry of Health, Ghana and Ghana Health Service hosted a National Learning Forum to discuss progress and share examples and experiences of implementing Quality Care for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health.

This webinar will document and share the challenges, practical solutions and lessons learned by Ghana in implementing and scaling up quality of care for MNH. This session will provide an opportunity for exchange between policy makers, managers and providers at national level, as well as among Network countries and with broader partners.

**Speakers:**

- Dr Ernest Abood, Head of Quality Management Unit, Ministry of Health Ghana
- Dr Mary Ashing, Deputy Director, Quality and Safety Management Institutional Care Division, Ghana Health Service

**Facilitation:**

- Dr Roseline Doo, Maternal and Child Health Officer, World Health Organization, Ghana

This is the second webinar in the 'Network National Forum' series, hosted by the Network for Improving Quality of Care for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, with the support of the World Health Organization.

**World Health Organization**

This webinar will document and share the conclusions of the National Learning Forum on the challenges, practical solutions and lessons learned by Ghana in implementing and scaling up quality of care for MNH. This session will provide an opportunity for exchange between policy makers, managers and providers at national level, as well as among Network countries and with broader partners.

*This is the second webinar in the 'Network National Forum' series hosted by the Network for Improving Quality of Care for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, with the support of the World Health Organization.*



## Nigeria: Lessons from engaging the private sector in delivering quality maternal and newborn health services

Thursday, 18 November 2021

5:30pm New Delhi, 1pm Geneva, 1pm Lagos

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The Federal Ministry of Health, Nigeria will share their findings and next steps in this webinar on engaging the private sector for quality MNH care.

The Quality of Care Network in partnership with WHO is exploring mechanisms for engaging the private sector in delivering maternal and newborn health services with quality.

Beginning with scoping exercises in Bangladesh, Ghana and Nigeria, [the exploratory project](#) is documenting the lessons from private sector delivery of quality health. The project objectives are to:

1. Analyze the drivers and the current engagement of the private sector to deliver quality maternal and newborn health services;
2. Identify opportunities for involving the private sector in working within the national health system to deliver quality maternal and newborn health services; and
3. Propose models for effective engagement of the private sector within the national health system for implementing quality maternal and newborn health services.

This webinar is part of a series that has been sharing the experience and lessons from Ghana, Nigeria and Bangladesh. The webinar will also set out next steps with further countries with their activity to engage the private sector in quality MNH care.

*This is the sixth webinar in the 'Engaging the private sector for quality MNCH care' series hosted by the Network for Improving Quality of Care for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, with the support of the World Health Organization.*

## Upcoming WHO event on maintaining essential maternal, newborn and child health services during the COVID-19 pandemic

### Maintaining essential MNCH services during the COVID-19 pandemic: Lessons from 19 countries

Tuesday, 2 November, 2021

6pm New Delhi, 2:30pm Nairobi, 1:30pm Geneva, 8:30am New York

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Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, WHO has engaged with countries to ensure the continuity of essential health services. Through a special initiative, the Department of Maternal, Newborn, Child, and Adolescent Health and Ageing has supported 19 countries: *Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, India, Kazakhstan, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Romania, South Africa, Sudan, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Uganda and Yemen* in their efforts to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on essential MNCH services.



This global event will share and discuss countries' experiences and lessons learned during the

implementation, including establishing structures and systems to coordinate the response and ensure continuity of services, proactive use of data to inform decision-making, adaptation of service delivery and innovation.

This event offers health policymakers, health systems, programme managers, emergency officers, MNCH programme implementers, health professionals, researchers, development and funding partners with an opportunity to interact with Ministries of Health and implementers from Brazil, Nepal, Pakistan, Romania and Uganda and discuss strategies to strengthen the health systems able to rapidly respond and build back better.

### Session plan:

Moderated by Femi Oke

**Opening remarks:** Dr Anshu Banerjee, WHO Geneva

### Country and regional panel and facilitated discussion:

- Panel 1: Governance and leadership - experiences, challenges and lessons learned:

- Dr Bibek Kumar Lal, Director Family Welfare Division, Ministry of Health & Population, Nepal
- Dr Roberta Paganini, Health Secretary, Pelotas Municipality in Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

- Panel 2: Using routine health information data for decision making:

- Dr Sabeena Afzal, Deputy Director, Federal Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination, Pakistan
- Dr Simon Muhumuza, M&E Advisor, Makerere University School of Public Health, Kampala, Uganda
- Irina Alexandra, MATEESCU Member of National Commission of Midwives, Romanian National Order for Nurses and Midwives and consultant, Romania

### Global lessons learned and discussion:

- Reflections from implementation so far and implications for health systems organization and response: Dr Anshu Banerjee, WHO Geneva
- Reflections and lessons learned from past disruptive events: Dr Lenka Benova, Associate Professor in Maternal and Reproductive Health at the Institute of Tropical Medicine in Antwerp, Belgium

### Questions & Answers with the audience

## New resources

### Assessing the quality of care for children attending health facilities: a systematic review of assessment tools

Assessing quality of healthcare is integral in determining progress towards equitable health outcomes worldwide. Using the WHO 'Standards for improving quality of care for children and young adolescents in health facilities' as a reference standard, this study aimed to evaluate existing tools that assess quality of care for children. A systematic literature review of publications and reports between 2008 and 2020 that reported use of quality of care assessment tools for children (<15 years) in health facilities was undertaken. Identified tools were reviewed against the 40 quality statements and 510 quality measures from the WHO Standards to determine the extent each tool was consistent with the WHO Standards.

Read the full BMJ article [here](#).





## Operational guide for facility-based audit and review of pediatric mortality

This document provides guidance for establishing and conducting child death reviews as part of overall quality improvement. The guidance describes the key components of national, subnational and facility mortality and morbidity audit and review systems.

This guide is now available in French at: <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/345979/9789240033498-fre.pdf>

## Network October webinars in review

All recordings and presentations from the Network webinars are available on the Network website at [this link](#). Our recent webinars in October 2021 are available by clicking the link:

- [Launch of the Ending Preventable Maternal Mortality coverage targets and milestones to 2025](#)

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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