

Transforming Maternal Health (TMaH) Model

Technical Assistance Factsheet








This factsheet provides a high-level overview of the types of one-on-one technical assistance (TA) available to participating State Medicaid Agencies (SMAs) and their partners* under the Transforming Maternal Health (TMaH) Model in three key areas of care delivery transformation.

Technical Assistance for Required Model Elements

Access, Infrastructure, and Workforce



TMaH will support relationship-building and education to participating SMAs and their partners to build critical maternal health care infrastructure and improve access to valuable resources, such as doulas and midwives.

Model Element	Examples of TA Service(s)
 Increase Access to the Midwifery Workforce	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Help SMAs to assess midwifery workforce capacity and options for covering additional types of midwives licensed in the state• Support payment analyses for determining fee schedule updates, and the creation of billing pathways for midwives (and obstetricians) to consult with maternal fetal medicine specialists• Provide guidance to connect SMAs with local and state resources to expand training, opportunities, and marketing around midwives
 Increase Access to Birth Centers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct payment analyses for determining fee schedule updates• Provide guidance for establishing sustainable reimbursement rates for birth centers
 Cover Doula Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide support to cover doula services through Medicaid authorities, including payment analyses and guidance on payment levels, as appropriate• Help SMAs establish doula advisory councils• Provide guidance and training for doulas to help them enroll in Medicaid and learn about reimbursement structures and billing procedures• Conduct provider awareness/education to create supportive care environments for doula care
 Improve Data Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support to link Medicaid data with records and data-matching across social service and benefit programs like WIC/SNAP and Medicaid to address cross-program enrollment gaps• Guidance to providers and other stakeholders around data privacy, permitted use and disclosures• Support to improve the collection and stratification of demographic data
 Develop Payment Model	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Guide discussions on the specification of a payment model, including which Medicaid authority to use to implement the payment model• Support analytics to forecast the impact of potential payment model parameters on utilization, cost, and quality outcomes using historic data• Facilitate engagement and communicate payment model implementation plan to providers and other stakeholders• Assist with managed care contracts for maternal health quality and access improvement

*TMaH is a state-based model, in which SMAs serve as model awardees. SMAs will collaborate with Managed Care Organizations (MCOs), Perinatal Quality Collaboratives (PQCs), hospitals, birth centers, health centers and rural health clinics, maternity care providers and community-based organizations (CBOs) to implement TMaH.

Quality Improvement and Patient Safety



Participating SMAs will implement quality initiatives and protocols with a goal of making childbirth safer and improving both the mother and newborn’s overall experience and will also work with hospitals and health systems to align with “Birthing-Friendly” criteria.

Model Element

Examples of TA Service(s)

Implement Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM) Patient Safety Bundles

- Assist in facilitating connections with Perinatal Quality Collaborative (PQC) to generate progress for hospitals to attain relevant AIM patient safety bundles at the recommendation of Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA)

Attain “Birthing-Friendly” Hospital Designation

- Provide guidance to hospitals partnering with TMaH SMAs on how to attain the CMS “Birthing-Friendly” hospital designation by aligning with criteria and identifying collaboratives for participation
- Provide guidance on marketing and displaying the designation on provider directories

Whole-Person Care Delivery



TMaH will help SMAs lead care transformations that ensure each patient receives care that is customized to meet their needs, including health screenings and referral pathways to community partners who can help with physical, social, and mental health needs.

Model Element

Examples of TA Service(s)

Home Monitoring of Diabetes and Hypertension

- Assist with analysis of existing Medicaid coverage and reimbursement for home monitoring to ensure collaborating providers can track and monitor chronic conditions remotely
- Assist SMAs in operationalizing the implementation of home monitoring and guidance for obtaining funding to cover cost of telehealth platforms, training, and equipment for home monitoring of diabetes and hypertension
- Assist SMAs in partnering with Public Health departments and other organizations (e.g., university) in the design and implementation of home monitoring

Risk Assess and Screen, Refer, and Follow-Up for Perinatal Depression, Anxiety, Tobacco Use, Substance Use Disorder, and Health Related Social Needs

- Provide resources to evaluate prenatal to postpartum care delivery patterns and utilization and to guide the development and implementation of medical and social risk assessments to inform risk-appropriate care
- Assist with analysis of community resource gaps for addressing behavioral health needs and Health-Related Social Needs (HRSNs) of pregnant and postpartum individuals
- Provide guidance to ensure that workflows and quality measures include recommended screening and follow up for maternal depression, anxiety, tobacco use, and substance use disorder

Develop Health Equity Plan

- Support SMAs in developing Health Equity Plans, including resources for data analyses to understand disparities, identify and track specific improvement goals, address data collection and infrastructure gaps, and ensure patients are having their translation and transportation needs met

Technical Assistance for Optional Model Elements

In addition to TA provided for required elements, TMaH will offer optional TA to support SMAs' unique needs. Examples of the optional TA opportunities are outlined below.



Cover certified midwives and certified professional midwives

Support SMAs to cover certified midwives and certified professional midwives licensed in the state through Medicaid authorities



Cover perinatal community health workers (CHWs)

Support SMAs with additional guidance to cover perinatal CHWs through Medicaid authorities



Create regional partnerships in rural areas

Provide support to bolster regional partnerships in rural areas among birth centers, community-based organizations (CBOs), community hospitals and larger hospitals/health systems for risk management



Extend Medicaid to 12 months postpartum

Support SMAs in amending state plans to include coverage of Medicaid for 12 months postpartum



Promote shared decision-making

Support SMAs to develop and implement patient decision aid resources to enhance shared decision-making; promote shared decision aids across patient population to improve use



Expand group perinatal care

Support SMAs in amending state plans to include coverage of group care



Expand oral health care

Support SMAs in identifying and addressing barriers in perinatal access to oral health care, including provider education and payment analysis



Increase use of home visits, mobile clinics, and telehealth

Provide guidance to SMAs using Medicaid authorities in connection with home visits for prenatal and postpartum care and on how to work with Managed Care Entities (MCEs) to offer home visiting services; provide additional guidance to expand scope to new outreach clinics in rural communities

Additional Information on TMaH

Visit the TMaH Website:

<https://www.cms.gov/priorities/innovation/innovation-models/transforming-maternal-health-model>

Subscribe to the TMaH Model Listserv:

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USCMS/subscriber/topics>

Email: TMAHModel@cms.hhs.gov

