



## Frequently Asked Questions

If you have additional questions, please email [papqc@whamglobal.org](mailto:papqc@whamglobal.org).

- 1. How can I access the March 11 Introductory PowerPoint, the PA PQC Driver Diagrams, and the definitions for the PA PQC quality metrics?**

*Answer: Please see below for a breakdown of where to find these resources.*

- Brief Overview, Presentation, Webinar Recording, and FAQs  
<https://www.whamglobal.org/papqc>
- Maternal Mortality Driver Diagram and Specifications for Quality Measures  
<https://www.whamglobal.org/papqc/papqc-maternal-mortality>
- OUD Driver Diagram and Specifications for Quality Measures  
<https://www.whamglobal.org/papqc/papqc-opioid-use-disorder>
- NAS/OEN Driver Diagram and Specifications for Quality Measures  
<https://www.whamglobal.org/papqc/papqc-neonatal-abstinence-syndrome>
- Registrations  
<https://www.whamglobal.org/papqc/get-involved>

- 2. I have been involved in the PA PQC work groups or the advisory group. Do I still need to submit the registration forms to join the PA PQC as a participating site?**

*Answer: Yes, even if you or your organization was involved in the PA PQC work groups or advisory group, you still need to submit the registration form in order to be recognized as a participating site.*

**3. When are the registration forms due to the PA PQC?**

Answer: We suggest to register to join the PA PQC in early April in order to give team members enough time to register for the April 24 Learning Collaborative session.

**4. Are only the champions invited to attend the PA PQC Learning Collaborative sessions?**

Answer: All team members listed in the registration forms will be invited to the Learning Collaborative sessions. This includes the champions, the multi-disciplinary QI/learning team roster, and the community-based partners. Attendees will have the opportunity to network with colleagues from across the State and participate in interactive sessions focusing on all three areas of focus, including maternal mortality, pregnant and postpartum women with Opioid Use Disorders, and Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome. Your team can decide who would benefit most by attending.

**5. The PA PQC's recruitment targets are focused on labor/delivery facilities and NICUs, and some of the metrics relate to prenatal and postpartum care in the community. How can our labor/delivery unit impact the metrics outside of our control?**

Answer: When registering for the PA PQC, you will have the opportunity to identify team members across your organization and in the community. We encourage you to identify a wide range of team members, from prenatal care to postpartum care, in order to make sure your team can address all quality metrics. The PA PQC staff can help connect hospital teams to community partners.

**6. Should community organizations register on their own, or in collaboration with a NICU/birth site?**

Answer: If you represent a community-based organization, we suggest to enroll with the hospital, NICU, birth center, or perinatal clinics, so you can work as a team. They can list you as a community-based partner on their team. If you would like the PA PQC staff to help connect you to the PA PQC sites, please email the PA PQC staff at [papqc@whamglobal.org](mailto:papqc@whamglobal.org).

**7. If I am from a stakeholder organization, how can I join the PA PQC since there is only a registration form for health plans and provider organizations?**

Answer: Provider organizations and health plans have the opportunity to identify stakeholders and community-based organizations when they fill out their form. If you are a stakeholder organization who would like to get involved, please feel free to contact the PA PQC staff at [papqc@whamglobal.org](mailto:papqc@whamglobal.org) and to register for an upcoming learning collaborative session.

- 8. Should we fill out the registration form for provider organizations at the health system or hospital/site level?**

*Answer: Either option is acceptable – either the health system as a whole can join, or hospitals can register individually. How your team decides to register may depend on how quality improvement (QI) projects are structured within your system (i.e., whether QI projects are coordinated at the health system-level, or separately by each individual hospital). If you would like to know whether your health system or individual site has already joined the PA PQC, please email us at [papqc@whamglobal.org](mailto:papqc@whamglobal.org).*

- 9. How can we make changes to our multi-disciplinary QI and learning team roster after we submit the registration form? Are we able to add people later once the team is determined, or do I need my full team information prior to registration?**

*Answer: Please send all changes in an email to [papqc@whamglobal.org](mailto:papqc@whamglobal.org). With this in mind, we suggest to register your site/system sooner rather than later. Changes can be made to your team roster over time by emailing [papqc@whamglobal.org](mailto:papqc@whamglobal.org).*

- 10. What will happen if we can't submit aggregate data for all the required metrics in May?**

*Answer: We encourage you to still register for the PA PQC and begin reporting data for the metrics that you're able to aggregate and report. Since data collection is an important component of the PA PQC in order to help drive improvement, all teams will be asked to establish a process for collecting data on all required metrics. It is our goal that over time, all participants will be able to regularly report on their data.*

- 11. Some of the PA PQC quality metrics require claims data. As a provider, how can I collect this data?**

*Answer: Provider organizations will work with health plans who are also participating in the PA PQC to gather claims data. If needed, the PA PQC staff can connect provider teams to the health plans and can help facilitate those conversations.*

- 12. I'm unsure whether our team will be able to complete quality improvement projects for all three foci of the PA PQC (OUD, NAS, and Maternal Mortality) by March 2020. Should we still join?**

*Answer: Yes, you should still join. Although you may not initially be able to support all three foci, your organization will benefit by participating in the PA PQC by exposing you to national and local experts, best practices, evidence-based strategies, resources, tools, and more!*

- 13. The PA PQC is working with the Vermont Oxford Network (VON). This will allow the PA PQC sites to access the VON NAS Universal Training Program and the VON Day Quality Audits for NAS. Can you explain how VON and the PA PQC are coordinating on the data definitions? Do I need to submit additional data to VON, in addition to the data being submitted for the PA PQC?**

*Answer: The PA PQC is working very closely with VON. They have the full PA PQC plan, and we worked with them develop the March 11 presentation. There will be ongoing coordination and collaboration.*

*The VON Day Quality Audits for NAS are an additional resource to the PA PQC sites to help inform the sites' quality improvement projects for NAS. The data definitions that are used in the VON Day Quality Audits are different than the data definitions that the PA PQC is using for the PA PQC's NAS measures. (The VON Day Quality Audits primarily pertain to infants treated pharmacologically for NAS with ICD-10 code P96.1.) The data definitions for the VON Day Quality Audits can't be changed since it is a national effort with a wider scope than PA. The PA PQC can still change the data definitions for the NAS measures that providers and stakeholders in PA created. However, the PA PQC intentionally defined the NAS-related metrics differently in order to account for the population of opioid-exposed newborns instead of just the infants treated pharmacologically for NAS.*

*The VON DAY Quality Audits will only occur at two time periods: July 8-12, 2019 and then in July 2021. The PA PQC's measures will be reported more frequently to help with continuously quality improvement. The only data requirement in the PA PQC for the NAS topic is the average hospital LOS for newborns with NAS (this measure is used both in the PA PQC and in the VON Day Quality Audits). Everything else is in an "optional category" for NAS to help with quality improvement.*

*The PA PQC has included these data reporting resources to help with the PA PQC site's quality improvement projects, and the VON Day Quality Audits are an additional, optional resource to help the PA PQC sites with this.*