



Safe Reduction of Cesarean Birth Patient Safety Bundle Overview

About the Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health

The Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM) is a national, cross-sector commitment designed to support best practices that make birth safer, improve maternal health outcomes, and save lives.

AIM focuses on the implementation of patient safety bundles, collections of evidence-informed best practices, developed by multidisciplinary experts, to address the leading clinical causes of maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity. Patient safety bundles include actionable quality improvement steps that can be adapted to a variety of facilities and resource levels. State teams, often Perinatal Quality Collaboratives, provide training, coordination, and support to hospitals and birthing facilities in their jurisdictions to implement bundles. As of April 2026, 74% of birthing hospitals and facilities across the United States are implementing at least one AIM bundle.

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While cesarean birth can be a life-saving intervention, its overuse is a significant maternal safety issue. It has associated short- and long-term risks, including increased morbidity and mortality from hemorrhage, infection, adherent placentation, and venous thromboembolism.

The Safe Reduction of Cesarean Birth Patient Safety Bundle includes recommendations and supportive resources for implementation elements including:



Readiness: Educate pregnant women and their families on labor and birth options; facilitate shared decision-making and informed consent, including the risks and benefits of elective induction.



Recognition and Prevention: Implement standardized admission criteria, triage management, and provide education and support for patients in spontaneous labor.



Response: Ensure the constant availability of clinicians, staff, and resources to maintain appropriate labor assessments.



Reporting and Systems Learning: Establish a culture of multidisciplinary planning and debriefing to help teams identify successes and opportunities for quality improvement.



Respectful, Supportive, and Patient-Centered Care: Engage in open, transparent, and empathetic communication to understand individual patient care needs and improve health outcomes for all.

Visit saferbirth.org for more information, including the full list of element implementation details, data collection plans, change packages, and the AIM Data Center.

[Safe Reduction of Cesarean Birth Patient Safety Bundle](https://saferbirth.org)



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