

Publishing Recommendations

Related to the AIM Program

Background

Since 2015, AIM states and jurisdictions have worked to implement AIM Patient Safety Bundles (PSBs). Findings related to the AIM program work have begun to be published as teams gather data related to outcomes and successes in improving patient safety related to PSBs.

The PSBs were developed under federal funding and are publicly available for use and the copyrights are held by ACOG. While PSBs can be duplicated and distributed in their entirety and without modification for solely non-commercial activities that are for educational, quality improvement, and patient safety purposes, AIM program staff should be contacted about PSB use outside of these circumstances.

Publishing

We encourage those planning to publish on AIM-related work to communicate with AIM program staff directly at aim@acog.org. AIM program staff may review manuscripts prior to submission for publication and provide feedback to ensure language is representative of the AIM program, AIM data collected, and PSBs.

We recommend the following to ensure accuracy of how the AIM program history and structure is represented in these publications and this language can be directly used in publications and writing related to AIM work:

Describing AIM

The Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM) is the national, cross-sector commitment designed to lead in the development and implementation of patient safety bundles for the promotion of safe care for every U.S. birth. Founded in 2014 through a cooperative agreement funded by the Health Services Resources Administration (HRSA) and executed by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), the AIM program provides expert technical support and capacity building to multidisciplinary state-based teams, most often perinatal quality collaboratives, leading targeted rapid-cycle quality improvement (QI) via implementation of patient safety bundles.

What is an AIM Patient Safety Bundle?

An Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM) patient safety bundle is a structured way of improving the process of care and patient outcomes: a small, straightforward set of evidence-based practices that, when performed collectively and reliably, have been proven to improve patient outcomes.

How were/are Patient Safety Bundles developed?

Patient safety bundles (PBSs) are developed by expert multidisciplinary working groups, supported by the Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM) staff at the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG). Working groups include representatives appointed by professional member organizations, known experts and researchers specializing in the clinical topic, and patients with lived experience. The bundle development process includes design of measure and metrics for implementation and multiple levels of review from engaged stakeholders.

How are data and metrics related to a bundle?

Data collected for quality improvement measures progress toward and success in bundle implementation. To support bundle implementation and data-driven quality improvement, AIM develops process, structure, and outcome metrics for each of its core bundles. For some bundles, AIM develops state surveillance metrics, which are statewide, public health surveillance metrics used to monitor health outcomes that cannot be easily attributed to a specific facility, such as maternal mortality.