

# ENHANCING ACCESS TO PRA (PERINATAL RISK ASSESSMENT) REGISTRY

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New Jersey Department of Health

The New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services has funded this program.

Analysis of New Jersey birth certificate data has, for decades, documented that Medicaid eligible, low income women are at risk for a poor pregnancy outcome. Yet, timely and accurate prenatal data was not available to provide insurers, providers, and state agencies with a clear understanding of the factors that contribute to disparities in maternal and child health in New Jersey.

Family Health Initiatives (FHI) implemented the Perinatal Risk Assessment (PRA), in 2006 in collaboration with the Department of Health (DOH), the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Human Services Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (Medicaid) and the 5 Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCOs). Registry for PRA data was developed to meet the requirements of the MCOs for identifying high risk patients to ensure appropriate care management. The PRA has evolved and been revised annually to ensure high quality information can be transferred between medical providers, managed care organizations and community-based agencies that provide comprehensive services to women across New Jersey

## Why participate?

The State of New Jersey passed a bill that requires all Medicaid providers to complete the PRA form and submit the data to the DOH to process, maintain and analyze in order to identify trends in risk factors associated with Medicaid recipients during pregnancy.

In order to support the State's priority to improve women's health and infant mortality rate, Medicaid envisions to achieve this goal by connecting the PRA system to the New Jersey Health Information Network (NJHIN). The NJHIN would be leveraged to enhance the registry to full automation. The registry would collect, report, and alert key stakeholders caring for pregnant women at risk of delivering babies with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) as well as the babies born with NAS. This work will improve access to the data by providers in hospitals and prenatal sites, ensuring that regardless of a patient's primary care source, information related to their pregnancy can be accessed to ensure timely and appropriate care. This advancement will improve data quality and completeness, reduce administrative burden to prenatal providers, and meet the HITECH meaningful use requirements for providers as the PRA serves as a pregnancy registry supporting DOH programs and services.

## Who is eligible?

New Jersey hospitals and their affiliated providers are eligible.

## What can NJII do for you?

NJII will support providers to complete the integration of HIN resources with the PRA registry and its aligned processes for MCOs and community agencies.

## Timeline:

The pilot program runs for a 2-year period and onboarding takes 4 months. No deadline has been established. Program finishes in September 2021.

## Fees:

There are no fees.

Those interested in joining should contact [njhin@njii.com](mailto:njhin@njii.com) or complete our [online form](#).