

April 3, 2020

The Honorable Chuck Grassley  
United States Senate  
Chairman, Committee on Finance

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
United States Senate  
Ranking Member, Committee on Finance

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Wyden:

On behalf of our nearly 500 member hospitals and health systems, the Texas Hospital Association appreciates the opportunity to provide information about evidence-based solutions to improve maternal health outcomes. We applaud the committee's work on this important issue and share in your concerns about the rising rate of adverse events for women and infants.

For your consideration, I am submitting a document outlining the TexasAIM initiative, which is a unique partnership between THA and the Texas Department of State Health Services focused on decreasing preventable maternal mortality and morbidity in Texas. We are very proud of this program, which was created in 2018. Currently, a staggering 218 birthing hospitals in Texas (97% statewide) are *voluntarily* participating in the initiative.

In TexasAIM, hospitals implement care bundles in the postpartum setting, the first of which was focused entirely on postpartum hemorrhage. Participating hospitals are divided into regional collaboratives where they meet regularly to participate in educational opportunities, review data collected and share best practices and lessons learned. The hemorrhage collaborative is set to wrap in late spring with a new bundle focused on hypertension to begin in early June. TexasAIM is also creating the first of its kind opioid-focused care bundle that will help address the unique needs of mothers and infants with a substance use condition. The program is being piloted in ten hospitals throughout Texas, with the goal to go statewide in the coming year.

THA has worked diligently with the state on this maternal mortality and morbidity prevention effort and is deeply invested in its success. Early this year, THA worked with the state health department to launch two promotional videos that describe hospitals' role in TexasAIM. In the [first video](#), hospital leaders across the state discuss the positive impact that TexasAIM participation has on their patients and communities. In the [second video](#), Texas hospitals discuss how they're implementing best practices to understand maternal mortality data, initiate collaboration, standardize processes, empower providers and save lives.

Additional resources are attached that provide a more detailed overview of the TexasAIM initiative and data captured from participating hospitals. Supporting Texas hospitals on the front line of the COVID-19 pandemic is demanding all of our attention at the moment, but we welcome an opportunity to speak directly with the committee about the important work of TexasAIM.

Thank you, again, for soliciting feedback. If additional information is needed, please contact John Hawkins, Senior Vice President of Advocacy and Public Policy at THA, at [jhawkins@tha.org](mailto:jhawkins@tha.org) or 512/465-1505.

Sincerely,



Ted Shaw  
President/CEO  
Texas Hospital Association

Cc: The Honorable John Cornyn



Texas  
Hospital  
Association

# Texas Hospitals Working Together to Improve Health Care for Pregnant Women and New Mothers

Through Texas AIM, Texas hospitals are implementing evidence-based care guidelines to **improve maternal care** and **reduce preventable maternal mortality and morbidity**.

**THA is supporting hospitals** in implementing these guidelines and **measuring progress** towards the ultimate goal of eliminating preventable maternal mortality and morbidity.

## TexasAIM Initiative

**A collaboration of the Texas Hospital Association, Texas Department of State Health Services and Texas hospitals.**



**218**  
TEXAS  
HOSPITALS  
Participating

**97%**

of Hospitals in  
THE STATE  
that Provide  
**BIRTHING SERVICES**



## TexasAIM Focuses On

**Reducing  
obstetric  
hemorrhage.**



**Improving  
obstetric care  
for women  
with opioid  
use disorder.**



**Reducing  
severe  
hypertension  
in pregnancy.**



Texas hospitals **choose the level** of participation appropriate for them:

### TexasAIM Basic

37 (or 17%) of the 218 TexasAIM hospitals are participating in the Basic program, through which hospitals have access to educational events, tools, basic technical assistance and support as well as a data portal to track progress.

### TexasAIM Plus

181 (or 83%) of the 218 TexasAIM hospitals are participating in the Plus program. In addition to the benefits associated with TexasAIM Basic, hospitals have access to individualized technical assistance, facilitated learning, sharing, networking, rapid access to resources and guided support from experts in maternal safety and in quality improvement.

Texas hospitals are **dedicated** to doing whatever it takes to achieve zero harm and the **highest quality of care** in all areas of patient care.

Through Texas AIM, Texas hospitals once again show that **commitment to patient safety** and quality of care are job one. Always.

## Questions

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**More information at [www.tha.org/AIM](http://www.tha.org/AIM)**



# TexasAIM

Safe Care for  
Every Mother



## Current TexasAIM Numbers | April 1, 2020

### Hospital Enrollment

**TexasAIM Basic Hospitals: 37** (17% of enrolled hospitals are in Basic)  
**TexasAIM Plus Hospitals: 181** (83% of enrolled hospitals are in Plus)  
**Total TexasAIM Hospitals: 218** (97% of birthing hospitals in Texas)

### TexasAIM Hospital Cohorts

**Cohort 1: 38** (17% of enrolled hospitals)

89% of participating hospitals are Plus

90% of hospitals in the region are in AIM

**Cohort 2: 48** (22% of enrolled hospitals)

90% of participating hospitals are Plus

96% of hospitals in the region are in AIM

**Cohort 3: 42** (19% of enrolled hospitals)

74% of participating hospitals are Plus

100% of hospitals in the region are in AIM

**Cohort 4: 44** (20% of enrolled hospitals)

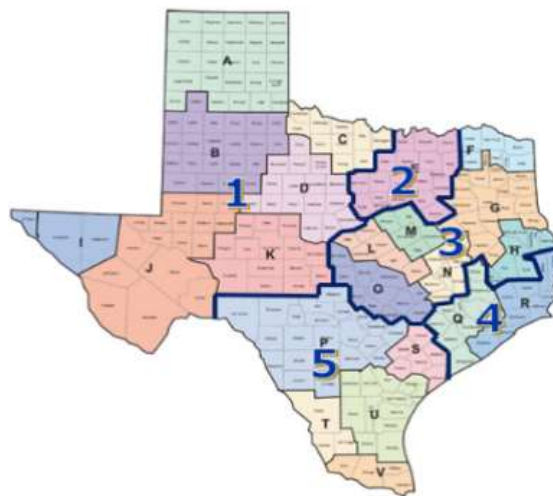
84% of participating hospitals are Plus

100% of hospitals in the region are in AIM

**Cohort 5: 46** (21% of enrolled hospitals)

78% of participating hospitals are Plus

100% of hospitals in the region are in AIM



### Geographic Area

**Rural Hospitals: 92%** of Rural Texas Hospitals are enrolled in TexasAIM (**19** Basic, **37** Plus)

**Urban Hospitals: 99%** of Urban Texas Hospitals are enrolled in TexasAIM (**18** Basic, **144** Plus)

### AIM Data Center Portal

**Registered Users in Portal: 552**

**Hospitals Active in the Portal: 215** (99% of enrolled hospitals)

**Structure Measure Status (In Place/Not in Place):**

Entered status for one or more Structure Measure: **210** (96% of enrolled hospitals)

**Process Measures 2018, July-September:**

Entered one or more Process Measure: **189** (87% of enrolled hospitals)

Entered all Process Measures: **174** (80% of enrolled hospitals)

**Process Measures 2018, October-December:**

Entered one or more Process Measure: **188** (86% of enrolled hospitals)

Entered all Process Measures: **172** (79% of enrolled hospitals)

**Process Measures 2019, January-March:**

Entered one or more Process Measure: **178** (82% of enrolled hospitals)

Entered all Process Measures: **163** (75% of enrolled hospitals)

**Process Measures 2019, April-June:**

Entered one or more Process Measure: **179** (82% of enrolled hospitals)

Entered all Process Measures: **165** (76% of enrolled hospitals)

**Process Measures 2019, July-September:**

Entered one or more Process Measure: **166** (76% of enrolled hospitals)

Entered all Process Measures: **153** (70% of enrolled hospitals)

**Process Measures 2019, October-December:**

Entered one or more Process Measure: **138** (63% of enrolled hospitals)

Entered all Process Measures: **128** (59% of enrolled hospitals)

**AIM PI Data Portal\***

**Registered Users in Portal: 310**

**Hospitals reporting at least one metric for at least one month: 134** (74% of enrolled plus hospitals)

**Hospitals reporting all metrics for at least one month: 43** (24% of enrolled plus hospitals)

\*reported by Texas Hospital Association

**TexasAIM Plus Learning Sessions**

**Learning Session 1 (Nov-Dec 2018)**

**Total Hospital Attendance:** 164 hospitals

**Total Attendees:** 587 attendees

**Learning Session 2 (Apr-May 2019)**

**Total Hospital Attendance:** 169 hospitals

**Total Attendees:** 563 attendees

**Learning Session 3 (Nov-Dec 2019)**

**Total Hospital Attendance:** 148 hospitals

**Total Attendees:** 472 attendees

**TexasAIM Plus Action Period Calls**

**Past Action Period 1 Calls:**

**Date:** January 23, 2019

**Topic:** Quantification of Blood Loss

**Attended:** 265 participants

**Date:** February 28, 2019

**Topic:** Obstetric Hemorrhage Drills and Simulations

**Attended:** 219 participants

**Date:** March 21, 2019

**Topic:** Obstetric Hemorrhage Cohort Specific Calls

**Attended:** 158 participants

**Past Action Period 2 Calls:**

**Date:** June 27, 2019

**Topic:** Components of Readiness

**Attended:** 204 participants

**Date:** July 25, 2019

**Topic:** Recognition and Prevention

**Attended:** 175 participants

**Date:** August 22, 2019

**Topic:** Response

**Attended:** 171 participants

**Date:** September 26, 2019

**Topic:** Reporting & Systems Learning

**Attended:** 190 participants

**Date:** October 24, 2019

**Topic:** Obstetric Hemorrhage Cohort Specific Calls  
**Attended:** 148 participants

**Past Action Period 3 Calls:**

**Date:** January 23, 2020  
**Topic:** Simulation and Drills  
**Attended:** 170 participants

**TexasAIM Bi-Weekly Bulletin**

**Bi-Weekly Bulletin is Sent to:** 1,241 subscribers