



AMETHIST

ACHIEVING MATERNAL EMPOWERMENT
AND TRANSFORMING HEALTH THROUGH
IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE AND
TRAINING

July 2025 News & Updates

Announcements & Upcoming Events



View our full
calendar of events!

AMETHIST@Penn-IMPROVE Centers of Excellence: Year 2 Follow-up Survey Report

To assess the progress of Centers' research projects, AMETHIST delivered the *IMPROVE Centers of Excellence Year 2 Follow-up Survey*. Findings of the survey demonstrated continued progress across the following topics:

- Design, Methods, & Analysis
- Community and Stakeholder Engagement
- Policy, Dissemination, & Communication
- Training and Capacity Building

[View the Report Here](#)

Resource Documents for Maternal Health Implementation Science Research

The AMETHIST Design Core has developed two new resource documents to support the work of maternal health researchers within and beyond the AMETHIST network.

Learn more at the links below:

- [Liberatory Design](#)
- [Liberatory Design: Maternal Health Project Use Case](#)

Welcoming our Physician & Nurse Research Scholars!



Nicole Crossley, PhD, RN, RDN, LD

Nicole Crossley, PhD, RN, RDN, LD, is an early-career nurse scientist and Assistant Professor in the Fran and Earl Ziegler College of Nursing at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. Her research focus is on promoting maternal health in rural communities by integrating obstetric nursing and nutrition, with particular attention to preconception and postpartum care. As a first-generation college graduate from a rural farming community, Dr. Crossley is dedicated to advancing health equity through community engagement and culturally responsive care. Nicole is excited to be joining AMETHIST@Penn and is looking forward to working with the team!

Lauryn Adams, MD

Dr. Lauryn Adams is currently in her final year of a Maternal Fetal Medicine fellowship at UPMC-Magee Women's Hospital. She received her medical degree from Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and her Master of Public Health from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. Prior to the fellowship, she completed her residency in Obstetrics & Gynecology at New York Presbyterian-Weill Cornell Medical Center. She is interested in designing and evaluating sustainable, equity-driven maternal health interventions using her training in high-risk obstetrics, public health, and now, implementation science. When she's not working, she enjoys weightlifting, traveling, reading and making cocktails. Lauryn is excited to be joining AMETHIST@Penn and is looking forward to working with the team!



Virtual Forum: Implementation of Community Health Workers

July 22nd | 12-1p ET

Our goal is to bring together researchers from across the IMPROVE network to learn from and alongside one another. This will be an invaluable opportunity to hear from experts and learn how other CoEs are currently working with doulas or considering how to implement them into their projects. Please feel free to share this invitation with any other team members you think would be helpful during this conversation - including your community health workers!

Please let us know if you plan to attend by registering at

this [link](#) by Friday, July 11th .

*There will be no virtual training seminar this July due to the recent holiday.
The series will resume in August.*

July Office Hours for IMPROVE Trainees

Wednesday, July 16th

Are you a trainee involved with one of the IMPROVE Centers of Excellence? If you are looking for assistance with IDP creation and feedback, career development award guidance, or advice on the design and conduct of a small- scale implementation project, feel free to sign up for office hours with our AMETHIST Training Core Co-Leads or Co-Investigators. Trainees may include post-docs, undergraduate or medical students, junior faculty, or anyone in a structured training program.

Sign up here for a 20-minute session:

[Monthly Training Core Office Hours — Signup Sheet](#)



Annual Virtual Journal Club on the Implementation of Doulas

Tuesday, August 12th | 12-1p ET

Speakers/Articles:

- **Katherine Quinn** | Associate Professor, Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine, Medical College of Wisconsin
[Implementation Barriers to Incorporating a Community-Based Doula Program to Improve Birth Outcomes for Black Patients in an Academic Medical Center - PubMed](#)
- **Marian Jarlenski** | Professor and Vice Chair for Practice, University of Pittsburgh Schools of Public Health and Medicine
[Study protocol: a mixed-methods study of the implementation of doula care to address racial health equity in six state Medicaid programs - PubMed](#)

[Register Here](#)

Funding Opportunity: Society for Maternal Fetal Medicine

Perinatal Quality Foundation (PQF) Award:

For multidisciplinary team projects designed to improve patient safety or quality of obstetrical care, the Foundation for SMFM will award up to \$25,000 in a new program funded by a generous legacy donation from the Perinatal Quality Foundation (PQF). Application instructions are available [here](#).

Applications will be accepted June 1st through September 15th, 2025.
Please start brainstorming with your team members about what you could accomplish if only you had the funds.

Share your Maternal Health Implementation Science Opportunities with Us!

Would you like to share current job postings or training events related to maternal health implementation science with us? Please email these opportunities to AMETHIST@penncare.upenn.edu to promote in our monthly newsletters!

Check out our library of resources
or request a consult!

[IMPROVE Collaboration Portal](#)

Connect with us!



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