AMETHIST
ACHIEVING MATERNAL EMPOWERMENT AND TRANSFORMING HEALTH THROUGH IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE AND TRAINING

October 2025 News & Updates

Announcements & Upcoming Events

View our full calendar of events!

AMETHIST hosts its first hybrid IMPROVE-CIP site visit with the Thomas Jefferson University!

AMETHIST welcomed the Thomas Jefferson University IMPROVE Community Implementation Program (CIP) team for an introductory site visit at the end of September. We are thrilled to begin supporting their research and learning from them. Thank you to all who attended!

Virtual Seminar: *Guided Understanding of Implementation, Development and Education (GUIDE) Tool*
Friday, October 3ʳᵈ | 1-2:00 PM ET

Join us for this month's IMPROVE seminar with **LauraEllen Ashcraft, PhD, MSW** to explore the newly published GUIDE tool (Guided Understanding of Implementation, Development

& Education), a practical approach for introducing implementation science concepts. Adaptable for courses or workshops, the tool provides worksheets and templates to help trainees and investigators apply IS in their own work. This session is ideal for those new to implementation science as well as educators looking for effective ways to teach it.

Zoom Registration

Engagement Enhancement Collaborative (EEC) Forum: *Affirming Gender in the Context of Pregnancy, Birth, and Parenthood*

Tuesday, October 21st | 1-2:30 PM ET

The forum will be led by **Dr. Natalie Fixmer-Oraiz, PhD**. All Center members are encouraged to attend including community partners! Please share this information with anyone on your team who may be interested.

EEC Forum Registration

Virtual Forum: *Preparing to Sustain Clinical Programs after the Completion of the IMPROVE Funding Cycle*
Tuesday, October 21st | 2:30-3:30 PM ET

As we make our way into the second or third years of our projects, one question IMPROVE investigators may have is: ***what happens when the grant ends?***

AMETHIST invites you to join us for the ***Preparing to Sustain Clinical Programs after the Completion of the IMPROVE Funding Cycle*** forum on **Tuesday, 10/21** from **2:30-3:30pm ET**.

This forum will explore how teams can plan for sustainability in their projects and ensure its impact can last beyond the IMPROVE funding cycle.

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.

We do not expect you to prepare anything in advance of the meeting - no need for slides. You can bring ideas and questions that would be helpful as well as any challenges you have encountered or anticipate encountering.

Please let us know if you plan to attend by registering with this **link**.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Virtual Workshop: *Rapid Qualitative Analysis in Maternal Health Research*
Wednesday, October 29th | 2-3:00 PM ET

Join **Matthew Kearney, PhD, MPH** from Penn's Mixed Methods Research Lab for an interactive workshop introducing rapid qualitative analysis techniques. We'll begin by grounding participants in the fundamentals of qualitative and mixed methods research, with examples from maternal health, before diving into practical strategies for conducting efficient, rigorous analysis. This session is ideal for researchers looking to build skills in applying qualitative methods to real-world maternal health challenges.

Zoom Registration

There will be no IMPROVE trainee office hours this month!

AMETHIST Postdoctoral Researcher Position

AMETHIST is looking for a new postdoctoral researcher to join their team in 2026. Please click the link below for more information on the job posting, and feel free to reach out to project manager **Casey Vaughan** (**casey.vaughan@pennmedicine.upenn.edu**) for more information.

Learn More Here

Come meet in person with those interested in implementation science in maternal health at an event co-sponsored by AMETHIST!

Sunday, December 14th | 5:00-8:00 pm ET

AMETHIST is partnering again with the Implementation Science for Maternal Health (IS4MH) Interest Group to hold an adjunct meeting at the Annual Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation in Health: **Sunday, Dec. 14th, 2025, 5-8pm**.

This session provides an opportunity for researchers at the intersection of implementation science and maternal health to connect with and learn from each other. The program will feature networking, lightning talks about D&I conference maternal health posters, and focused talks on dissemination and social media for maternal health implementation research.

This session is open to all, but space is limited. Refreshments and light fare will be served.

Please RSVP by Nov. 7th, 2025 [here](#).

Community Partner Training Opportunity

The Community Engagement and Research Core is excited to offer a free, online training course focused on strengthening skills in human subject research and identifying the responsibilities of community-based researchers. If you are interested in this training opportunity or know someone who would be, please visit this **[link](#)** for more information.

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@pennmedicine.upenn.edu** to promote in our monthly newsletters!

Check out our library of resources or request a consult!	**IMPROVE Collaboration Portal**

Connect with us!

University of Pennsylvania | 3641 Locust Walk | Philadelphia, PA 19104 US