AMETHIST

ACHIEVING MATERNAL EMPOWERMENT AND TRANSFORMING HEALTH THROUGH IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE AND TRAINING

October 2026 News & Updates

Announcements & Upcoming Events



October National Acknowledgements

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. We come together to raise awareness for the importance of early breast cancer screenings, research for the disease, and celebrate our survivors.

AMETHIST@Penn Engagement Considerations Report (2025-2026)

The Engagement Core is excited to share our second annual Engagement Considerations Report, published to AMETHIST's website. The report highlights themes and takeaways from the past year of Engagement Enhancement Collaborative (EEC) forums.

Access it Here!



Upcoming Seminar

Methodological Innovations in Implementation Science: Video-Reflexive Ethnography

October 2nd at 1PM EDT

Video-reflexive ethnography is a methodology birthed from health services research and quality improvement that centers the knowledge and experience of participants. While well-established in other parts of the world, it is not well known in the United States. Dr. Rebecca Clark shares VRE as a methodology, how it is well-suited for implementation (especially facilitation), and tips for those interested in exploring/using VRE.

Register Here!

New AMETHIST Resource Document!

Designing an Implementation Toolkit For Evidence-Based Interventions in Maternal Health

A resource outlining the components of an implementation toolkit and how researchers can create their own for maternal health innovations.
Toolkits compile resources to support the implementation of evidence-based interventions and innovations. These include adaptable documents, resources, and “tools” (e.g. templates, instruction sheets, videos) presented in a variety of formats (e.g. online, hard copy, manuals). Implementation toolkits can be used in various clinical and community settings with diverse audiences (Barac et al., 2014). Implementation toolkits “provide a blueprint for what to do, when to do it, and how to do it” throughout the implementation process (UC Davis, 2024).

Visit our Website!

October Office Hours

October 7th 2-3PM EDT

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.

Link to Sign Up

Implementation Outcomes: Part 2

Friday, October 30th | 1-2pm EDT

Join the AMETHIST Design Core for a continuation of our recent seminar on **implementation outcomes**. This interactive session will begin with a brief recap of the previous seminar, followed by a project example from the IMPROVE network discussing their selection and measurement of clinical and implementation outcomes.

During the second half of the session, attendees will have the opportunity to connect individually with implementation science experts for 10-minute consultations, with sign-ups available at the start of the event. Participants will leave with practical insights, personalized guidance, and resources to select and measure implementation outcomes within their own work.

Register Today!



AMETHIST@Penn & IS4MH D&I Adjunct Session

Come meet in person with those interested in implementation science in maternal health!

Sunday, December 13th | 5-8pm EDT

AMETHIST and the Implementation Science for Maternal Health (IS4MH) Interest Group are holding an adjunct meeting at the AcademyHealth Annual Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation in Health on **Sunday, Dec. 13th, 2026 from 5-8pm Eastern (National Harbor, MD).**

This session provides an opportunity for researchers at the intersection of implementation science and maternal health to connect and learn from each other. The program will feature networking, lightning talks about D&I

conference maternal health posters, and focused talks on training and mentoring the next generation of maternal health implementation scientists.

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

RSVP by Nov. 6th



Fall 2026 Early Career Implementation Science Virtual Writing Retreat

Monday, October 19th | 9 am-12pm EDT

Hosted by LauraEllen Ashcraft! Please join us for the Fall 2026 Early Career Implementation Science Virtual Writing Retreat. This event is for early career implementation science researchers. This event will be held Oct 19-23 from 9am-12pm each day.

During the retreat, attendees will 1) write goals for each day, 2) have the camera on for additional accountability, 3) take 5-minute breaks at the top of each hour, 4) progress & win sharing at the end, and 5) utilize a shared spreadsheet for daily goals and progress tracking. We recognize that there are some meetings you absolutely cannot miss. You may step-out and return, but we encourage you to cancel or reschedule as many meetings as you can so you can fully immerse yourself in the writing process.

Register Today!

Apply to be a Co-Chair with the Implementation Science for Maternal Health (IS4MH) Special Interest Group!

The *Implementation Science for Maternal Health (IS4MH) Special Interest Group* is **seeking two new Co-Chairs** to help lead and grow its community

beginning in 2027.

The Co-Chairs will provide strategic and operational leadership for the group. **Applicants from all degree backgrounds and disciplines are welcome**, including but not limited to medicine, nursing, public health, maternal health, behavioral sciences, social sciences, health services research, and implementation science.

Eligibility: Attendance at a prior IS4MH event is required to be considered.

Applications are due Sunday, **November 1st, 2026**. Please submit all materials to **rebecca.feldmanhamm@pennmedicine.upenn.edu.**

Full Application Criteria

AMETHIST Rapid Consultations

Looking for feedback on a new project idea? Want to discuss reviewer comments on a grant proposal? Have a quick IS question that you'd like some input on? The AMETHIST Design Core's "rapid consultations" are 15-30 minute meetings that offer IMPROVE researchers the opportunity to connect with an AMETHIST team member for early-stage feedback, brainstorming, and strategic thought partnership on a specific project or challenge.

To request a rapid consultation, contact Shelby Billups (**shelby.billups@pennmedicine.upenn.edu**) for more information.

Check out our library of resources or request a consult!

IMPROVE Collaboration Portal

Connect with us!

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