

2023 Prenatal-to-3 State Policy Roadmap

Methods and Sources

Effective Strategies

GROUP PRENATAL CARE

What is group prenatal care and why is it important?

All references for this section are provided in the Notes and Sources section at the bottom of each webpage. Additionally, search the [Prenatal-to-3 Policy Clearinghouse](#) for an ongoing inventory of rigorous evidence reviews, including more information on group prenatal care.

What impact does group prenatal care have?

The following studies meet standards of strong causal evidence to demonstrate the impacts of group prenatal care for the health and wellbeing of young children and their families:

- A. Felder, J.N., Epel, E., Lewis, J.B., Cunningham, S.D., Tobin, J.N., Rising, S.S., Thomas, M., & Ickovics, J.R. (2017). Depressive symptoms and gestational length among pregnant adolescents: Cluster randomized control trial of Centering Pregnancy® plus group prenatal care. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology, 85*(6), 574-584. [dx.doi.org/10.1037/ccp0000191](https://doi.org/10.1037/ccp0000191)
- B. Ford, K., Weglicki, L., Kershaw, T., Schram, C., Hoyer, P.J., & Jacobson, M.L. (2002). Effects of a prenatal care intervention for adolescent mothers on birth weight, repeat pregnancy, and educational outcomes at one year postpartum. *The Journal of Perinatal Education, 11*(1), 35-38. [dx.doi.org/10.1624/105812402X88588](https://doi.org/10.1624/105812402X88588)
- C. Ickovics, J.R., Kershaw, T.S., Westdahl, C., Magriples, U., Massey, Z., Reynolds, H., & Rising, S.S. (2007). Group prenatal care and perinatal outcomes: A randomized controlled trial. *Obstetrics and Gynecology, 110*(2 Pt 1), 330-339. [dx.doi.org/10.1097/01.AOG.0000275284.24298.23](https://doi.org/10.1097/01.AOG.0000275284.24298.23)
- D. Ickovics, J.R., Reed, E., Magriples, U., Westdahl, C., Rising, S.S., & Kershaw, T.S. et al. (2011). Effects of Group prenatal care on psychosocial risk in pregnancy: Results from a randomized controlled trial. *Psychology & Health, 26*(2), 235-250. [dx.doi.org/10.1080/08870446.2011.531577](https://doi.org/10.1080/08870446.2011.531577)
- E. Ickovics, J.R., Earnshaw, V., Lewis, J.B., Kershaw, T.S., Magriples, U., Stasko, E., Rising, S.S., Cassells, A., Cunningham, S., Bernstein, P., & Tobin, J.N. (2016). Cluster randomized trial of group prenatal care: Perinatal outcomes among adolescents in New York City health centers. *American Journal of Public Health, 106*(2), 359-365. [dx.doi.org/10.21054/AJPH.2015.302960](https://doi.org/10.21054/AJPH.2015.302960)
- F. Kennedy, H.P., Farrell, T., Paden, R., Hill, S., Jolivet, R.R., Cooper, B.A., & Rising, S.S. (2011). A randomized clinical trial of group prenatal care in two military settings. *Military Medicine, 176*(10), 1169-1177. [dx.doi.org/10.7205/MILMED-D-10-00394](https://doi.org/10.7205/MILMED-D-10-00394)

- G. Kershaw, T.S., Magriples, U., Westdahl, C., Rising, S.S., & Ickovics, J. (2009). Pregnancy as a window of opportunity for HIV prevention: Effects of an HIV intervention delivered within prenatal care. *American Journal of Public Health, 99*(11), 2079-2086. [dx.doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2008.154476](https://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2008.154476)
- H. Klerman, L.V., Ramey, S.L., Goldenberg, R.L., Marbury, S., Hou, J., & Cliver, S.P. (2001). A randomized trial of augmented prenatal care for multiple-risk, Medicaid eligible African American women. *American Journal of Public Health, 91*(1), 105-111. [dx.doi.org/10.2105/ajph.91.1.105](https://doi.org/10.2105/ajph.91.1.105)
- I. Magriples, U., Boynton, M.H., Kershaw, T.S., Lewis, J., Rising, S.S., Tobin, J.N., Epel, E., & Ickovics, J.R. (2015). The impact of group prenatal care on pregnancy and postpartum weight trajectories. *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology, 213*(5), 688.e1-9. [dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ajog.2015.06.066](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajog.2015.06.066).
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What are the key policy levers to implement group prenatal care?

In the absence of an evidence-based state policy lever to ensure the services effectively provide children and families the support they need, we present several choices that states can make to more effectively implement group prenatal care. We identified two key policy levers that states can implement to more effectively provide group prenatal care services in their state. The two key policy levers include:

- Provide an enhanced Medicaid reimbursement rate to incentivize group prenatal care and
- Invest funding to pilot or scale up group prenatal care in the state.

Data regarding enhanced Medicaid reimbursement rates and state investment in group prenatal care were obtained from state Medicaid Manuals, state agency websites and reports, and direct outreach to Centering Healthcare Institute, Inc.

We also performed an electronic search using Quorum State between September 28, 2022 and August 15, 2023 to assess legislative progress pertaining to group prenatal care. The main search strategy used combinations of keywords for group prenatal care (group prenatal care OR centeringpregnancy OR centering pregnancy OR enhanced prenatal OR Medicaid WITHIN 10 OF group prenatal care services OR bundled payments OR perinatal care OR centeringparenting OR centering parenting OR prenatal WITHIN 10 OF group setting OR pregnant WITHIN 5 OF group setting). Research staff conducted searches, analyzed results for relevant state legislation, and summarized the progress states made toward supporting and implementing group prenatal care services. This component of legislative progress did not impact a state's rating, but rather is described in the narrative.

This section also contains the sources for the information presented in the individual state Roadmaps.

Measure 1: State support for group prenatal care

Definition:

Yes/No the state supports group prenatal care through one of two types of financial support and/or one type of non-financial support.

Notes:

1. The two types of financial support include:
 - a. State Medicaid or a contracted managed care organization (MCO) provides enhanced reimbursement rates for group prenatal care services
 - b. State uses grant or discretionary funding to support incentives with enhanced reimbursement payment models or to pilot/scale up a GPNC model in the state
2. A state is considered to have provided non-financial support for group prenatal care if it officially recognizes GPNC as an effective strategy for improving maternal and child health outcomes
3. State support data are as of August 15, 2023.

Sources:

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Rhode Island	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. State of Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services. (n.d.). <i>Physician Coverage Guidelines</i>. Retrieved on August 15, 2023, from https://eohhs.ri.gov/providers-partners/provider-manuals-guidelines/medicaid-provider-manual/physician/physician#15.15
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	<p>https://www.southcarolinablues.com/web/public/resources/10e861bf-3a49-4cca-af7a-904ad66c9505/Maternity+FAQs.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CVID=orsZeeT</p> <p>2. Gareau, S., Lòpez-De Fede, A., Loudermilk, B.L., Cummings, T.H., Hardin, J.W., Picklesimer, A.H., Crouch, E., & Covington-Kolb, S. (2016). <i>Group prenatal care results in Medicaid savings with better outcomes: A propensity score analysis of CenteringPregnancy participation in South Carolina</i>. <i>Maternal and Child Health Journal</i>, 20(7), 1384-1393. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10995-016-1935-y</p> <p>3. South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. (2017, May 25). <i>Medicaid bulletin</i>. https://www.scdhhs.gov/sites/default/files/CenteringPregnancy%20Benefit%20Medicaid%20Bulletin_UPDATED%20v9%20Final%20w%20DTS%20Signature.pdf</p>
South Dakota	<p>1. South Dakota Medicaid. (2023, August 1). <i>Physician Services Fee Schedule</i>. https://dss.sd.gov/docs/medicaid/providers/feeschedules/Physician_Services_SF24.pdf</p>
Tennessee	<p>1. March of Dimes. (2016, October 25). <i>March of Dimes launches new national council on financing group prenatal care</i>. https://www.marchofdimes.org/news/march-of-dimes-launches-new-national-council-on-financing-group-prenatal-care.aspx</p> <p>2. Tennessee Division of Health Care Finance & Administration. (2019, December 27). <i>Executive summary: Perinatal episode</i>. https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/tenncare/documents2/PeriSumm2020v6.pdf</p> <p>3. BlueCare Tennessee. (2023, October 1). <i>BlueCare Tennessee Provider Administration Manual</i>. https://www.bcbst.com/providers/manuals/BCT_PAM.pdf</p>
Texas	<p>1. S.B. 750, 86th Leg., Reg. Sess., (Tex. 2019).</p> <p>2. Texas Medicaid and Healthcare Partnership. (2022, June). <i>Texas Medicaid provider procedures manual</i>. https://www.tmhp.com/sites/default/files/file-library/resources/provider-manuals/tmppm/pdf-chapters/2022/2022-06-june/2_Med_Specs_and_Phys_Srvs.pdf</p> <p>3. Texas Medicaid and Healthcare Partnership. (n.d.). <i>Fee schedule</i>. Retrieved on August 15, 2023, from https://public.tmhp.com/FeeSchedules/OnlineFeeLookup/FeeScheduleSearch.aspx</p>
Utah	<p>1. Utah Department of Health and Human Services. (2023, July). <i>Utah Medicaid provider manual, Division of Integrated Healthcare</i>. Section 2 physician services manual. https://medicaid.utah.gov/Documents/manuals/pdfs/Medicaid%20Provider%20Manuals/Physician%20Services/Physician%20Services%20Manual/PhysicianServices.pdf</p> <p>2. Utah Department of Health and Human Services. (n.d.) <i>Office of Healthcare Policy and Authorization, PRISM Coverage and Reimbursement Code Lookup</i>. Retrieved August 15, 2023, from https://health.utah.gov/stplan/lookup/CoverageLookup.php</p> <p>3. M. Kalra, Centering Healthcare Institute Inc., personal communication, October 4, 2023.</p>
Vermont	<p>1. Vermont Agency of Human Services Department of Vermont Health Access. (n.d.). <i>Codes/fee schedules</i>. Retrieved on August 15, 2023, from https://dvha.vermont.gov/providers/codesfee-schedules</p>
Virginia	<p>1. Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services. (n.d.). <i>Procedure Fee Files & CPT Codes</i>. https://www.dmas.virginia.gov/for-providers/rates-and-rate-setting/procedure-fee-files-cpt-codes/</p>
Washington	<p>1. Washington State Health Care Authority. (n.d.). <i>Provider billing guides and fee schedules</i>. Retrieved August 15, 2023, from https://www.hca.wa.gov/billers-providers-partners/prior-authorization-claims-and-billing/provider-billing-guides-and-fee-schedules</p>

State	Source
	2. Washington Department of Health. (2018). Washington State Health Assessment: Prenatal Care. https://doh.wa.gov/sites/default/files/legacy/Documents/1000/SHA-PrenatalCare.pdf
West Virginia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. West Virginia Department of Health & Human Resources, Bureau for Medical Services. (n.d.). <i>WV Medicaid Physician's RBRVA Fee Schedules</i>. Retrieved on August 15, 2023, from https://dhr.wv.gov/bms/FEES/Pages/WV-Medicaid-Physician's-RBRVS-Fee-Schedules.aspx 2. West Virginia Perinatal Partnership. (n.d.). <i>Committee recommendations for establishing priorities for perinatal care actions</i>. Retrieved on August 15, 2023, from https://wvperinatal.org/initiatives/maternity-care-provider-coverage/committee-recommendations-for-establishing-priorities-for-perinatal-care-actions-for-the-state-of-west-virginia/ 3. H.B. 3415, 2023 Leg., Reg. Sess., (W. Va. 2023).
Wisconsin	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Department of Health Services. (n.d.). <i>Healthy babies through healthy families</i> [Brochure]. Retrieved August 15, 2023, from https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/healthybirths/brochure.pdf 2. ForwardHealth. (n.d.). <i>BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid Online Handbook</i>. Retrieved August 15, 2023, from https://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/WIPortal/Subsystem/KW/Display.aspx?ia=1&p=1
Wyoming	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Laramie County Health Matters. (n.d.). <i>Centering Pregnancy program</i>. Retrieved August 15, 2023, from http://www.laramiecountyhealthmatters.org/promisepractice/index/view?pid=3261 2. Wyoming Medicaid. (n.d.). <i>CMS 1500 provider manual and bulletins</i>. Retrieved August 15, 2023, from https://wyomingmedicaid.com/portal/Provider-Manuals-and-Bulletins/CMS-1500-Provider-Manual

How does group prenatal care vary across states?

Data were collected for two different measures to assess how states vary in their implementation of group prenatal care. The datasets, calculations, and sources referenced for each state are listed below.

Measure 2: CenteringPregnancy Group Prenatal Care Sites

Definition:

The number of CenteringPregnancy group prenatal care sites in the state (as of 2023)

Source:

Centering Healthcare Institute Inc., retrieved August 11, 2023, from <https://centering.my.salesforce-sites.com/WebPortal/LocateCenteringSitePage>