

# **ASTHO Preterm Birth Projects**

## **Special Presentation for SACIM**

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# Agenda

- Provide Brief Overview of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)
- Highlight several state strategies to Reduce Preterm Birth
- Summary

# About ASTHO

- ASTHO represents: U.S., U.S. Territories and freely associated states, and D.C. public health agencies
- Track, evaluate, provide TA, and advise on the impact and formation of public or private health policy.
- Members, the chief health officials of these jurisdictions:
  - Convene governmental and nongovernmental agencies
  - Engage clinical and community partners
  - Raise visibility among a broader community of policymakers, funders
  - Leverage and link data to collaborate with public and private payers to drive payment policy reforms

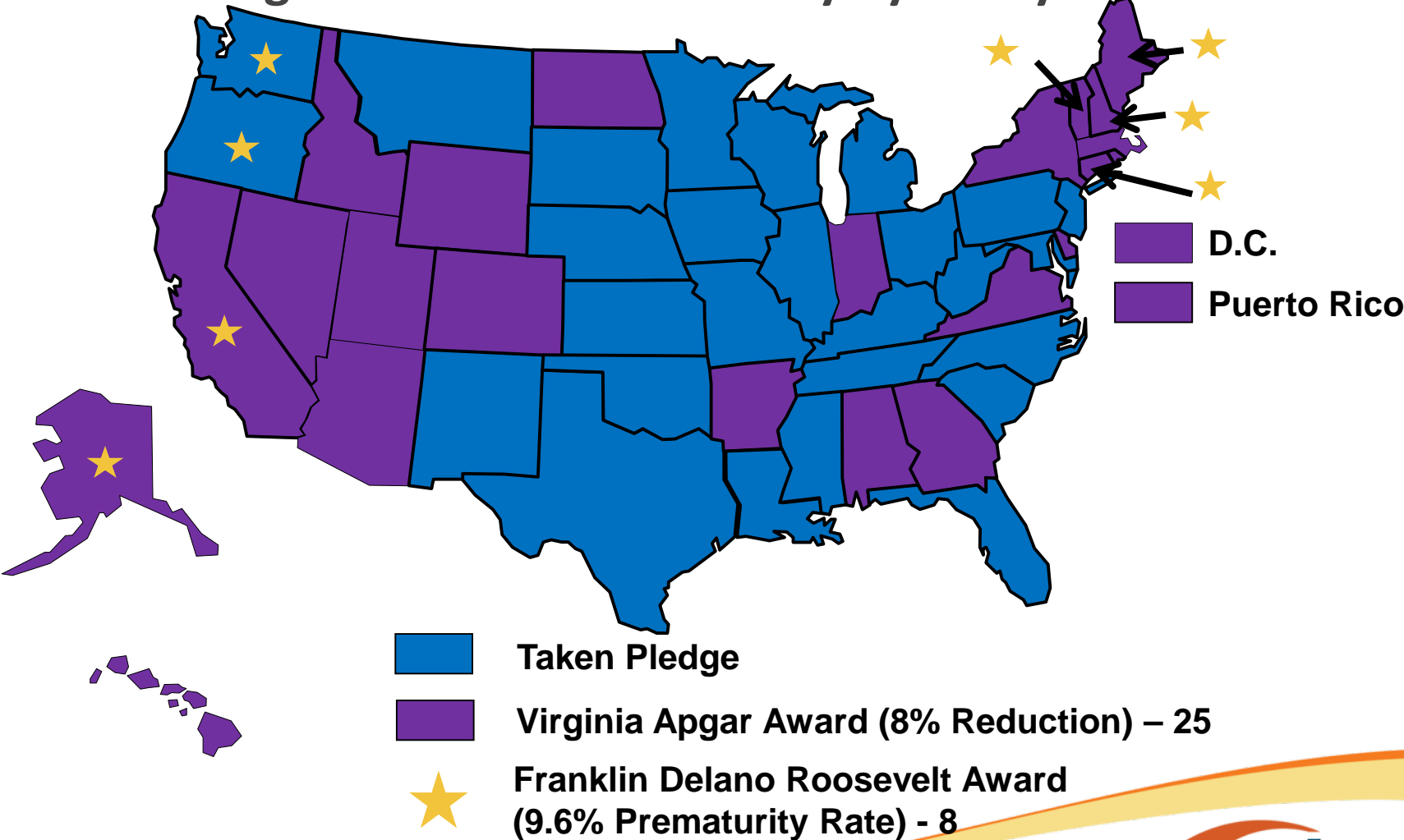
# State Strategies to Reduce Preterm Birth

- Healthy Babies Challenge
  - CoIIN
- Access to 17P
- Early Elective Deliveries
- Reducing Tobacco Use
- Long Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC)
- Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS)
- Improving Birth Outcomes Position Statement

The screenshot displays the ASTHO website's 'HEALTHY BABIES' section. At the top, the ASTHO logo and 'ASSOCIATION OF STATE AND TERRITORIAL HEALTH OFFICIALS' are visible. A navigation menu includes 'PROGRAMS +', 'EVENTS +', 'ADVOCACY +', 'RESEARCH +', and 'MEMBER SERVICES +'. A search bar and a 'MEMBER LOGIN' button are also present. The main content area features the article 'PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE 2012: HEALTHY BABIES', which discusses the initiative's goal to improve birth outcomes by reducing infant mortality and prematurity. Below the article is a collage of images illustrating the 'Healthy Babies Initiative' across different stages: 'PRECONCEPTION', 'BIRTH TO 28 DAYS', and 'FIRST YEAR'. The collage includes photos of a woman exercising, a doctor examining a pregnant woman, a newborn baby, and a young child playing with blocks.

# Leadership: Healthy Babies Challenge: 50 States Have Taken the Pledge

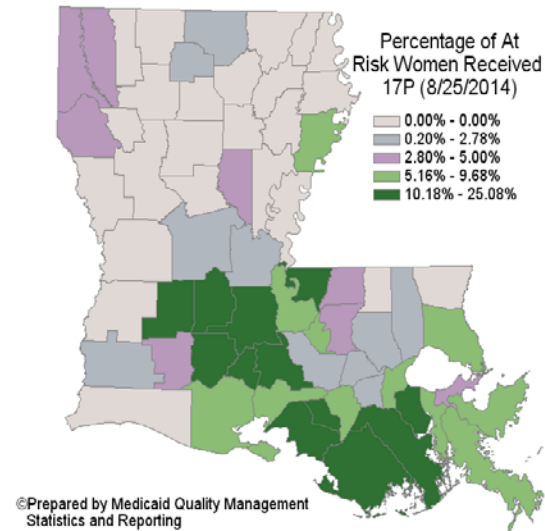
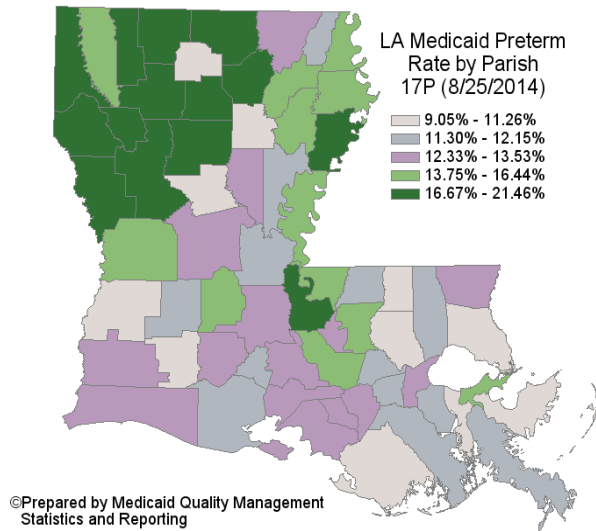
Pledge to Reduce Prematurity by 8% by 2014



# Increasing Access to 17 Alpha-Hydroxyprogesterone Caproate (17P)

- 17P is a synthetic form of injectable progesterone that helps prevent subsequent PTB in certain women
  
- ASTHO Strategies for States
  - ASTHO 17 P Fact Sheet
  - ASTHO 17 P Issue Brief
  - State Health agencies can convene Medicaid, healthcare providers, and other stakeholders
  - Eliminate barriers to access – policy and payment

# Louisiana Example: Increasing 17P Access



- 5% of eligible women receive 17P
- Linked vital records data to Medicaid data to identify eligible women
- 1<sup>st</sup> to create a progesterone pay for performance measure for Medicaid managed care plans
- State plan amendment to increase the price of progesterone

# Reducing Non Medically Indicated Early Elective Deliveries (EED)

- EED policies can reduce preterm birth
- ASTHO Strategies for States:
  - Leveraging leadership
  - Multiple approaches to policy changes
  - Increasing capacity within systems of care
  - Identifying, engaging, and securing community, provider champion, and multi-sector partnerships
  - Develop, adapt, and coordinate consistent



# State Examples: Early Elective Deliveries



20,000 births shifted to 39-41 weeks over 3 years  
\$24M savings

Hospitals voluntarily signed up,  
70% reduction in EED <39 weeks



Jan 1, 2013: Medicaid and SC BC/BS collaboration  
Saved \$1M delivery costs, \$7M hospitalization

Hospitals receive 1% increase in Medicaid  
reimbursement rates to reduce EED

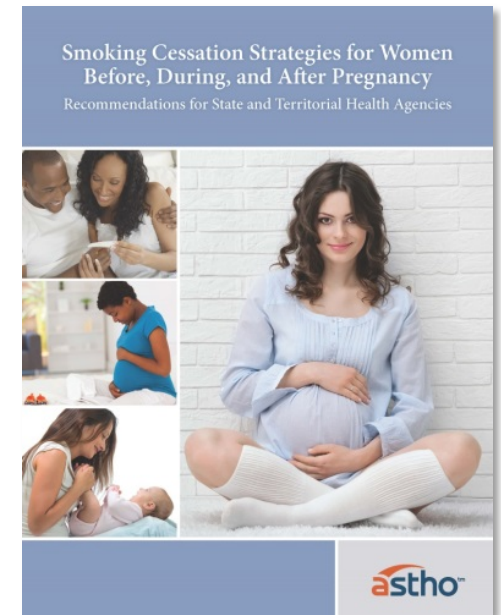


# Reducing Tobacco Use

## ASTHO Tobacco Resources

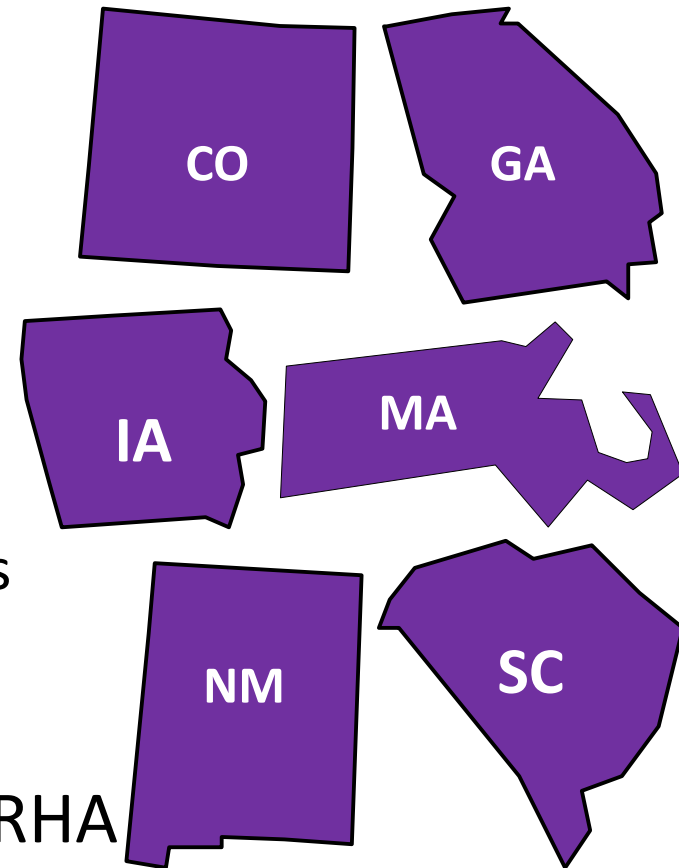
### Smoking Cessation Strategies for Women Before, During, and After Pregnancy: Recommendations for State and Territorial Health Agencies

- Role of state and territorial health agencies
- Recommendations
- Resources
- State examples



# Increasing Access to LARC Immediately Postpartum (IPP)

- LARC Learning Community:
  - 6 states to improve state capacity to successfully implement LARCs IPP
  - Facilitate state-to-state sharing
  - Provide technical assistance
  - Develop state stories, tools, and a toolkit on state solutions and materials
- Partners: CDC, CMS, OPA, ACOG
- Supporting partners: AMCHP, NFPRHA



# ASTHO LARC IPP State Examples



Colorado

Created an IPP LARC provider training protocol



Georgia

Conducted successful trainings at residency programs



Iowa

Developed an evaluation plan based on 3 state programs



Massachusetts

Providers advocating to Medicaid to change reimbursement structure



New Mexico

MMCO coordinating to educate providers  
LARC IPP is reimbursable

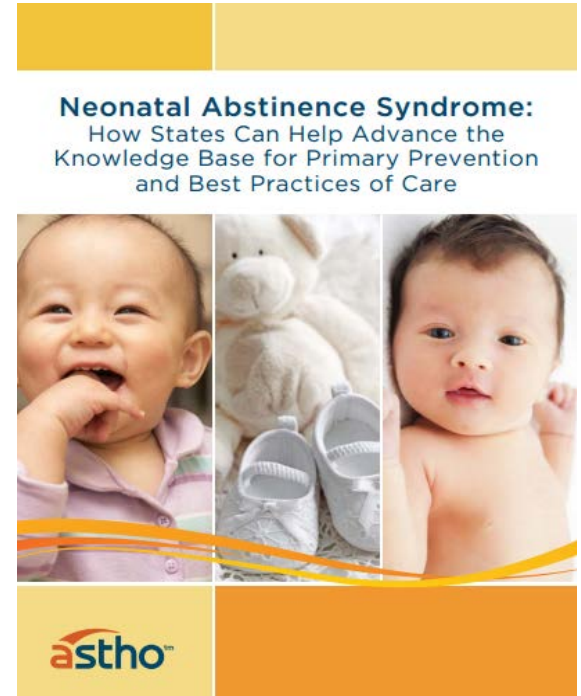


South Carolina

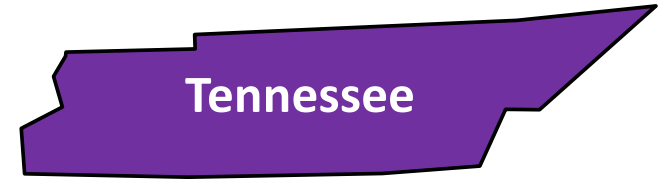
Ensuring clinical staff are familiar with Medicaid policies

# Reducing Prescription Misuse, Abuse, and Diversion: Addressing Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome

- Issue brief and upcoming companion piece on state-level approaches to NAS
- State case studies for challenges and successes, webinars, framework
- Rx survey data profiles (NAS special section)  
[www.astho.org/rx/profiles](http://www.astho.org/rx/profiles)



# State Example: Tennessee



- NAS is a reportable condition as of Jan. 1, 2013
  - Maternal opiate use is captured through web-based portal available on Dept. of Health website
- Medicaid claims data opportunities for intervention to prevent and treat opioid dependency in pregnancy
  - Majority of cases (62.8%) at least one substance causing NAS was prescribed by a provider.
- Primary prevention strategies include: prevent addiction from occurring, prevent pregnancy in women taking narcotics

# ASTHO Position Statement

- Access Policy Committee:
  - Access to public health and health services, particularly for vulnerable and at-risk populations.
- Healthy Babies Subcommittee:
  - Standing subcommittee to discuss emerging issues around improving birth and maternal outcomes
- Improving Birth Outcomes Position Statement
  - ASTHO supports state and territorial health agencies in their work to improve birth outcomes through policy and comprehensive system-wide changes.

# Summary

- Effective and evidence based strategies exists to reduce preterm birth and infant mortality
- State health departments play an important role in implementing these strategies
- Leadership, partnership, policy changes are critical in advancing systems level changes
- ASTHO is a resource to federal, state and local partners



# Contact Us

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## **ASTHO resources:**

- ASTHO Healthy Babies Initiative Clearinghouse: <http://www.astho.org/healthybabies/>
- LARC Page: <http://www.astho.org/Programs/Maternal-and-Child-Health/Long-Acting-Reversible-Contraception-LARC/>
- Rx Drug Project (NAS): <http://www.astho.org/rx>
- ASTHO State Stories: <http://www.astho.org/Programs/Access/Maternal-and-Child-Health/MCH-Case-Studies-and-Resources/>