

Connecticut Infant Mortality Review Committee

Purpose, Scope, Mission, Objectives, and Vision

Purpose and Scope:

The purpose of the Infant Mortality Review Committee (IMRC) is to review medical records and other relevant data related to the death of an infant. This review can include but is not limited to, information collected from death and birth records, and medical records from health care providers or health care facilities. The purpose and scope of the review is for the IMRC to recommend how to reduce infant deaths by reducing health care disparities, identifying gaps in and challenges with the delivery of care or services. The work of the IMRC will be confined to the review of infant deaths, as defined by Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) § 19a-59j, which is the death of a child that occurs between birth and one year of age. No later than ninety days after completing an infant mortality review, the IMRC shall report to the Commissioner of Public Health the recommendations and findings of the committee in a manner that complies with CGS § 19a-25.

Mission:

The mission of the IMRC is to increase awareness of the issues surrounding infant deaths and to promote change among individuals, healthcare systems, and communities to reduce the number of infant deaths in Connecticut. To do so, the IMRC will conduct a comprehensive, multidisciplinary reviews of all infant deaths in the state of Connecticut to identify methods of reducing health care disparities, to identify factors associated with infant deaths, and to make public health and clinical recommendations.

Objectives:

The objectives of the Infant Mortality Review Committee are to:

- a. Determine the annual number of infant deaths related to preventable causes or conditions.
- b. Describe trends, identify systemic drivers (healthcare delivery processes, services and resources) and examine medical and social risk factors for infant deaths in CT.
- c. Develop actionable, community-engaged strategies to eliminate preventable infant deaths and reduce health disparities in infant outcomes.
- d. Promote the translation of findings and recommendations into quality improvement actions at all system levels.

Vision:

The IMRC's vision is to eliminate preventable infant deaths by reducing health care disparities, identifying factors associated with infant deaths and making recommendations to reduce infant deaths.

Committee Membership:

The IMRC is a multidisciplinary committee whose geographically diverse members represent various specialties, facilities, and systems that interact with and impact maternal, neonatal, and pediatric health. There are no term limits.

Meeting Structure:

The IMRC reviews and makes recommendations about each case based on the case narrative and abstracted data. The committee examines the cause of death and contributing factors, and determines:

- a. Was the infant death preventable?
- b. If there were chances to alter the outcome, how so?
- c. What were the contributing factors to the death?
- d. What specific and feasible recommendations for actions should be taken to prevent future deaths?