Continuous Quality Improvement Toolkit
A Resource for Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program Awardees

Module 8: Key Driver Diagram

SMART AIM	PRIMARY DRIVER	CHANGE STRATEGY

A Key Driver Diagram helps CQI teams identify drivers (or factors) that influence a SMART aim, and change strategies that address those factors. This helps organize theories and change strategies during CQI projects.

Use the Key Driver Diagram template to identify potential drivers and associated change strategies for a SMART aim. The following steps will aid in this process:

1. Create the SMART aim or outcome.
2. Identify drivers that contribute to the problem. The Brainstorming and 5 Whys tools can help identify these factors. Place each driver separately under "Primary Drivers."
3. Determine change strategies that will affect the primary drivers. Change strategies may be evidence-based or novel. Place each change strategy in a separate box under "Change Strategy."
4. Draw lines connecting change strategies to the drivers that they will influence.
5. Test each change strategy to determine its effect on the driver and track progress toward the aim.

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