

**Planning for a future evidence review and  
discussion on the impact of abortion on infant  
and maternal mortality**

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# Charge and Description of Duties of SACIMM:

With the goal of reducing infant and maternal mortality and morbidity and improving health status before, during, and after pregnancy, SACIMM advises the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services on:

- department activities, partnerships, policies, and programs directed at achieving the above goal,
  - how to best coordinate federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial governmental efforts that are designed to improve infant mortality, related adverse birth outcomes, and maternal health,
  - how to influence similar efforts in the private and voluntary sectors,
  - factors contributing to disparities and inequities seen in birth outcomes for women and infants,
  - the health, social, economic, and environmental factors contributing to the inequities,
  - policies, programs, resources, and structural/systems level changes required to address the disparities and inequities in infant mortality, related adverse birth outcomes, and maternal health outcomes.
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- **Within the scope of SACIMM's charge and duties, what questions should SACIMM consider regarding future evidence review and discussion of the impact of abortion on infant and maternal mortality?**

# In times of uncertainty, inquiry lights the way

## **What do we mean by “inquiry?”**

When you are stuck, try to find a way forward as you:

- Turn judgment into curiosity
- Turn conflict into shared exploration
- Turn defensiveness into shared exploration
- Turn assumptions into questions

## **What is the *Power of Inquiry*?**

A practice of inquiry to help groups find action in complex situations

- **WHAT?** Focus on a challenge where you are stuck
- **SO WHAT?** Ask questions without answering them
  - Follow the Rules for Inquiry
  - Ask about evidence and sources of evidence
  - Listen to questions of others and let them inspire you
- **NOW WHAT?** Reflect on what you see and what you might do