

Important Updates to the Transforming Maternal Health (TMaH) Model

Updated guidance from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) regarding TMaH's value-based payment (VBP) strategy and implementation timeline as of April 6, 2026.

Key Model Updates

CMS has made two significant adjustments:

- **Delayed VBP Implementation timeline:** The VBP model will now begin in **2029**, instead of 2028.
- **Delayed Prospective Case Rate Payments:** The prospective monthly case rate will likely be **delayed for at least the first two years of implementation (2029–2030)**.

Currently, CMS is still considering a **retrospective episode-of-care payment approach** beginning **January 1, 2029**. The final timeline will be confirmed later this year.

Context for These Changes

These updates reflect CMS's consideration of:

- The transition to an unbundled maternity care billing model beginning January 1, 2027.
- Operational and timeline concerns raised by our managed care plans, partners, and providers.

What This Means for Applicants

- The **current TMaH application is not a binding commitment** to participate in the model.
- **Formal budgeting and contracting** will occur after additional value-based payment model guidance and Provider Infrastructure Payment (PIP) amounts are established.
- To allow ample time for provider locations to prepare for full implementation, we **encourage applying** even with this provisional guidance.

Looking Ahead

CMS will likely continue to refine the model. We are committed to transparency and open communication. Our goal remains to build a sustainable, scalable model that meets the maternal health needs of providers, payers, and the families we serve.

We are grateful for your continued partnership and engagement.

To apply, please visit [Transforming Maternal Health / Department of Human Services](#).

For questions regarding these model changes or the application process, email transformingmaternalhealthmodel.dhs@state.mn.us.