

**MATERNAL HEALTH
AWARENESS DAY 2026**

NAVIGATING TODAY'S CHALLENGES IN MATERNAL HEALTH

**Join us in person or
online for a discussion
related to vital and
pressing maternal
health issues**

Friday, Jan. 23, 2026

8:30 A.M. - 1 P.M.

*Registration/breakfast begins at 8:30 a.m., with
program from 9 a.m. - noon, and lunch following.*

Clinical Academic Building, Room 1302
125 Paterson Street
New Brunswick Campus



MATERNAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY 2026

AGENDA:

Welcome

Archana Pradhan, MD, MPH

Interim Chair, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences, and Associate Dean for Clinical Education, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

Keynote Speaker:

Lisa Asare, MPH

President and CEO

NJ Maternal and Infant Health Innovation Authority

Lisa Asare will explore key barriers to equitable maternal health care in New Jersey and examine the impact of perinatal mental health and cardiovascular disease on maternal outcomes. The session will highlight the importance of early identification, continuity of care, and postpartum follow-up, and will review state-level strategies to strengthen integrated care across the maternal health continuum.

PANEL DISCUSSION

Closing the Gaps: Building Sustainable, Integrated Models for Maternal Health

Moderator: **Amy P. Murtha, MD**

Dean, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

Panelists: **Julie Blumenfeld, DNP, CNM**

Program Director for Nurse Midwifery and the Dual Women's Health/Nurse Midwifery Program, Rutgers School of Nursing

Emily Rosenfeld, DO

Instructor, Maternal-Fetal Medicine, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

Nancy Scotto-Rosato, PhD

Director of Maternal & Child Health
N.J. Department of Health

This session will highlight initiatives improving maternal health access, mental health support, and cardiovascular risk management, and will showcase integrated care models embedded in routine obstetric practice. It will also examine challenges in scaling evidence-based strategies and identify opportunities for cross-sector collaboration to improve maternal health outcomes.

Women's Health Accelerator Pitches

Naveena Yanamala, PhD

Section Chief, Clinical Research and AI Innovation, Department of Medicine, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

Jay Naik, MD

Vice Chair for Clinical Innovation, Department of Medicine, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

The most promising teams from the 2025 Rutgers Hackathon Women's Health Track will present innovative solutions aimed at reducing barriers to maternal health care access, strengthening perinatal mental health support, and addressing cardiovascular risk in pregnancy and postpartum. Solutions focused on scalability and real-world impact of emerging technologies, care models, and service delivery innovations will be highlighted.

Closing Remarks

Gloria A. Bachmann, MD, MS

Associate Dean for Women's Health, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School



This *HYBRID* event will feature an in-person seminar series on our New Brunswick campus, including refreshments. A webinar link is available for those unable to attend in person.

<https://forms.office.com/r/Udqh7z4dxY?origin=IprLink>

Scan the QR code to RSVP for the in-person event by Jan. 15!

