

Committee on Research Issues in the Assessment of Birth Settings

Statement of Task

The Institute of Medicine and the National Research Council will convene an ad hoc committee to plan and conduct a two-day public workshop that will review updates to the 1982 IOM-NRC report *Research Issues in the Assessment of Birth Settings*. The workshop will feature presentations from invited speakers and discussions that will highlight research findings that advance our understanding of the effects of maternal care services in different types of institutional settings on maternal labor, clinical and other birth procedures, and birth outcomes. These settings include conventional hospital labor and delivery wards, alternative birth settings that may be hospital-affiliated or free-standing, and home births.

The committee will develop the agenda for the workshop, select and invite speakers and discussants, and moderate the discussions. The workshop topics will consider research on different organizational models of care delivery, workforce requirements, patient and provider satisfaction levels, and birth outcomes. The workshop will also identify key data sets and relevant research literatures that may inform a future ad hoc consensus study to address these concerns. An individually authored workshop summary will be prepared by a designated rapporteur based on the information gathered and the discussions held during the workshop in accordance with institutional policy and procedures.