



Sept. 30–Oct. 2

AMA ADVOCACY IN ACTION WORKSHOP



Advocating for Patients: Expanding Coverage of Remote Monitoring Devices and Services

The maternal mortality crisis in the United States is worsening, and the disparities are staggering—Black women are dying at three times the rate of White women, while American Indian and Alaskan Native women face death rates twice as high. Most of these deaths are preventable—about 80%, according to the CDC—highlighting critical gaps in healthcare access, especially for vulnerable populations. Addressing these systemic failures is essential for improving the health and well-being of women, families, and communities.

Maternal deaths are not just individual tragedies; they reflect broader societal challenges in providing safe and effective healthcare for every woman. The loss of mothers destabilizes families, adversely affects surviving children, and places a greater strain on social support systems.

To address these challenges, the **Connected Maternal Online Monitoring Act** or “**Connected MOM Act**,” (S. 712/H.R. 8532), introduced by Senators Cassidy (R-LA) and Hassan (D-NH), and Representatives Frankel (D-FL-22) and Salazar (R-FL-27), aims to improve maternal and child health outcomes by expanding Medicaid coverage for remote physiological monitoring devices. This bipartisan bill seeks to identify and tackle barriers to such coverage, ensuring that pregnant and postpartum women have access to this essential technology. It mandates a report to Congress detailing current practices, limitations, and the impact of these devices, followed by a requirement that CMS update their telehealth resources for State Medicaid programs to enhance their coverage.

As Congress considers the best way to package together its final priority items and must-pass legislation, including the Connected MOM Act in any end-of-year packages is crucial for making meaningful progress on maternal health. This bill addresses urgent barriers to accessing essential remote monitoring technologies for pregnant and postpartum women, which has proven to prevent avoidable deaths. By ensuring this legislation is prioritized in current or forthcoming legislative sessions, we can take a significant step towards reducing maternal mortality rates, especially among vulnerable populations. Moving forward with the Connected MOM Act will underscore a strong commitment to improving maternal health and addressing systemic inequities in care.

ACTION REQUESTED:

- Ask your Senator or Representative to Cosponsor (S. 712/H.R. 8532) the **Connected Maternal Online Monitoring Act** or “**Connected MOM Act**” in order to address the maternal mortality crisis.
- Include the **Connected MOM Act** in any end of year package to ensure its passage this session.