

NCPS Mission: To continuously improve the safety and quality of healthcare delivery in the region.



NCPS Update April 2021

A Message from the Patient Safety Program Director

The American Public Health Association (APHA) has designated April 5-11 as National Public Health Week 2021! For more than 25 years, the APHA has observed the first full week of April as a time to recognize the contributions of public health and emphasize issues that are critical to improving our nation's health. And, each year, the APHA develops an educational campaign for policy makers, practitioners and the general public about topics related to the year's theme. During each day of this year's National Public Health Week, APHA is focusing on a particular public health topic and identifying ways each of us can make a difference related to that topic. Check out the daily themes and download their Fact Sheets and other materials that can be used to raise awareness about public health and prevention: <http://www.nphw.org/nphw-2021>

NCPS Shared Learning Resource: Reporting Committee Summary

This month's learning resource is the Quarter 1 Reporting Committee Summary. The summary focuses on improving the effectiveness of communication among caregivers, and risk mitigation as it relates to reporting critical results of tests and diagnostic procedures on a timely basis. You can access and download this brief by logging into the members only portal on the NCPS website: <https://www.nepatientsafety.org/members/member-login.html>

NCPS Annual Report coming in April!

Patient Safety News

The Chartis Center for Rural Health Top 100 Critical Access and Top 100 Rural & Community Hospitals

The Chartis Group, a leading healthcare advisory and analytics firm, has released the 2021 Top 100 Critical Access Hospitals and the 2021 Top 100 Rural & Community Hospitals; an annual recognition program that honors outstanding performance among the nation's rural hospitals based on the results of the Hospital Strength INDEX®.

CONGRATULATIONS to the following Nebraska hospitals that made the lists:

Critical Access Hospitals

- Boone County Health Center, Albion
- Brodstone Memorial Hospital, Superior
- CHI Health St Mary's, Nebraska City
- Community Medical Center, Falls City
- Fillmore County Hospital, Geneva
- Howard County Medical Center, St. Paul
- Jefferson Community Health & Life, Fairbury
- Johnson County Hospital, Tecumseh

- Memorial Community Health, Aurora
- Memorial Health Care Systems, Seward
- Pender Community Hospital, Pender
- Phelps Memorial Health Center, Holdrege
- St. Francis Memorial Hospital, West Point
- Thayer County Health Services, Hebron
- York General Hospital, York

Rural and Community Hospitals

- Columbus Community Hospital, Columbus

[Read more \[t.e2ma.net\]](http://t.e2ma.net).

PA Practice Statute Changes

Legislative Bill (LB) 755 became effective in November 2020. This legislation streamlines statutory language relating to physician assistant (PA) practice and made several changes enhancing care provided by PAs in Nebraska. LB 755 is the result of collaboration among NAPA, the Nebraska Medical

Association, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services and the American Academy of PAs. Among other things, it:

- Improves the flexibility of PAs to provide care in group practices by allowing a PA's scope to be determined by the PA's education, training and experience as long as a physician in the group has a similar scope.
- Removes language stating that a PA is the agent of the PA's supervising physician.
- Removes practice restrictions for PAs who practice in hospital settings.
- Removes practice restrictions for PAs who have less than two years' experience.
- Clarifies that PAs may practice in remote settings and removes restrictions on PAs practicing in remote settings with less than two years of experience.
- [Read more](#).

Learning Opportunities for NCPS Members

Join the Nebraska Debrief Implementation Collaborative!

NCPS is pleased to invite all Nebraska hospitals to participate in a collaborative that will help teams to develop a toolkit to support their efforts to use debriefs to improve quality and patient safety.

- Learn why and how to conduct debriefs
- Participate in implementation support calls
- Improve team performance and patient outcomes
- Receive continuing education credit

Funding for this project is provided by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Rural Health.

Click [here](#) for more information about the project and how to register. There is no cost to participate! Contact Gail Brondum at gail.brondum@unmc.edu with questions.

NCPS Webinar: Taking a Case Study Approach to Using Data for Patient Safety Improvement Efforts

DATE: Wednesday, April 21, 2021 from 12 – 1 PM Central Time.

PURPOSE: Participants will be introduced to the concepts of using patient safety-related data to inform quality improvement initiatives through a case study model. The presenter will use a fall risk reduction case study that identifies how to use data to create a Data-Information-Knowledge-Wisdom (DIKW) framework for fall risk reduction efforts. The principles she covers can be applied to any type of patient safety data.

PRESENTER: Anne Skinner RHIA, MS, Assistant Professor, College of Allied Health, University of Nebraska Medical Center.

REGISTRATION: Click [here](#) to register for this free webinar.

If you have a patient safety topic you would like to learn more about, please contact Regina Nailon (regina.nailon@unmc.edu) with your suggestions. We welcome input from our members!

Patient Safety Resources

Workplace violence: Protecting healthcare workers education recording available.

The Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) has made available a recording of the Virtual Learning Hour held on March 16, as part of IHI's Patient Safety Awareness Week. Access it here. http://www.ihl.org/education/WebTraining/Webinars/workplace-violence-protecting-health-workers/Pages/default.aspx?utm_campaign=tw&utm_medium=email&hsmi=114624963&henc=p2ANqtz-8QwHuWwMut58CwW-HI1K_MSpHXHWqtiGitN9H172ruQ2egPj7VIJbGGt5ulFo8mvnOeHR9z1beumgGyKDSv8P7AJYoA&utm_content=114362207&utm_source=hs_email

Physician Wellness Resources

Please click on the image below to learn more about the services provided by LifeBridge Nebraska, which is available to every Nebraska physician, **free of charge**, regardless of NMA membership.



LifeBridge™
Nebraska's Physician Wellness Program

Return to a place where practicing medicine is meaningful and joyful.

Free, confidential, peer-to-peer physician coaching that is self-referred without medical diagnosis, insurance billing, or electronic records.

FIND OUT MORE:
nebmed.org/lifebridge



Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) Patient Safety Update

AHRQ has released an issue brief that describes how IT tools such as mobile text messaging, online patient portals and health apps may provide new opportunities to involve patients and improve diagnoses made in the emergency department (ED). For example, ED access to a patient's primary health care portal can allow patients and their providers to review medical records from the external system in real time, view previous test results, and access additional clinical details to guide the process. Learn more: <https://www.ahrq.gov/patient-safety/reports/dxsafety-issuebriefs.html> [Inks.gd]

AHRQ National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report: Chartbook on Patient Safety

AHRQ has released the 2021 Network of Patient Safety Databases Chartbook. This resource provides an overview of de-identified, aggregated patient safety and near-event information voluntarily reported by federally listed PSOs. Click here to access the report: <https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/national-healthcare-quality-and-disparities-report-chartbook-patient-safety>

COVID-19 Resources

The I-READI (Integration, Root cause analysis, Evidence Review, Adaptation, Dissemination, and Implementation) Conceptual Framework

The University of Pennsylvania Health System developed the I-READI conceptual framework to assist hospitals in preparing for and responding to patient safety challenges during times of crisis, such as the COVID-19 pandemic. The I-READI approach can simplify communication, enhance collaboration, and bring together rapid change through the use of daily safety huddles, root cause analysis, and technology. Read more: <https://catalyst.nejm.org/doi/10.1056/CAT.20.0305>

COVID-19 Resources Related to the Care of Older Adults

The Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) has compiled a list of national resources that provide information and guidance on COVID-19 and older adults – especially those living in long-term care and skilled nursing facilities. These include staffing guides for leaders, and resources to support discussions about vaccine hesitancy. Access here. http://www.ihl.org/Topics/COVID-19/Pages/COVID-19-Care-of-Older-Adults.aspx?utm_campaign=tw&utm_medium=email&hsmi=113419797&hsenc=p2ANqtz--JFOKJdAYAXnGWAEUKCZxsc3UXPhi-WM25zxOv7R9Iyy6xZtlpeTz2jXWYST2JUIJPnCK1AraGN0TbnwZ7v0EBhwRNw&utm_content=113158095&utm_source=hs_email

Mental health support for healthcare workers during COVID-19 pandemic

The March 2021 issue of The Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety includes an article that describes how one hospital in the Bronx – the borough hardest hit by COVID-19 in New York City – implemented a variety of mental health services to mitigate and treat the psychological distress experienced by staff. Read Staff Emotional Support at Montefiore Medical Center During the COVID-19 Pandemic. <https://www.jointcommission.org/resources/news-and->

[multimedia/newsletters/newsletters/joint-commission-online/march-3-2021/march-journal-mental-health-support-for-health-care-workers-during-covid19-pandemic/](https://www.jointcommission.org/multimedia/newsletters/newsletters/joint-commission-online/march-3-2021/march-journal-mental-health-support-for-health-care-workers-during-covid19-pandemic/)

ECRI has published the **Top 10 Patient Safety Concerns 2021** report which identifies issues that healthcare organizations should be aware of this year, and provides possible action steps that can be taken to minimize the occurrence of adverse events:

1. Racial and ethnic disparities in healthcare
2. Emergency preparedness and response in aging services
3. Pandemic preparedness across the health system
4. Supply chain interruptions
5. Drug shortages
6. Telehealth workflow challenges
7. Improvised use of medical devices
8. Methotrexate therapy
9. Peripheral vascular harm
10. Infection risk from aerosol-generating procedures

Sign up for the free report. [https://www.ecri.org/top-10-patient-safety-concerns-2021?utm_campaign=Enhancing%20Culture%20of%20Safety&utm_medium=email&hsmi=114758307&hsenc=p2ANqtz-xuKphMoQzW8oAoDWNmZ5m6OoTWmXOZx3aI7LzApBkloCuTjkODTGF1_rTx8_a-jpz8dpXYRHvzH_tD-5gazqmL8qaqA&utm_content=114758307&utm_source=hs_email](https://www.ecri.org/top-10-patient-safety-concerns-2021?utm_campaign=Enhancing%20Culture%20of%20Safety&utm_medium=email&hsmi=114758307&hsenc=p2ANqtz-xuKphMoQzW8oAoDWNmZ5m6OoTWmXOZx3aI7LzApBkloCuTjkODTGF1_rTx8_a- jpz8dpXYRHvzH_tD-5gazqmL8qaqA&utm_content=114758307&utm_source=hs_email)

Keeping patients on track with preventative care during the pandemic

The Joint Commission Quick Safety Issue 58 provides healthcare organizations with safety actions and strategies that can be used to encourage patients to seek preventative care, which could result in more optimal outcomes during this uncertain time. Access the report here.

<https://www.jointcommission.org/resources/news-and-multimedia/newsletters/newsletters/quick-safety/quick-safety-issue-58/>