

NCPS Update: July 2022

A Message from the Patient Safety

Program Director

Carla Snyder, MHA, MT(ASCP), SBB



The impact of the current COVID-19 pandemic continues being felt in all areas of Americans' lives.

The U.S. Census Bureau, in collaboration with multiple federal agencies, launched the Household Pulse Survey in April 2020 to produce data on the social and economic impacts of COVID-19 on American households. A variety of areas were targeted for survey including employment status, consumer spending, food security, housing, education disruptions, and dimensions of physical and mental wellness. By obtaining accurate and timely weekly estimates of these metrics, the goal of improving response time for identified problem areas was thought to be more attainable. Beginning June 1, 2022 questions about long COVID were added to the survey. The June 1 – June 13, 2022 survey found that nearly 1 in 5 American adults who reported having COVID-19 are still having symptoms of long COVID. Nebraska's statistics do show a lower percentage (12.8%) than the average; however, this does present a concern for its potential impact to an already stressed healthcare system. The detailed information from this survey may be found [here](#).

A significant consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic for healthcare providers has been an increase in the number of patient complaints to state agencies, CMS, and The Joint Commission regarding patient safety issues. Staffing shortages and pandemic-related process changes are two of the primary reasons for these complaints. A recent Becker's Hospital Review webinar sponsored by Chartis Clinical Quality Solutions featured three Chartis' compliance experts discussing practical approaches to addressing common pain points in regulatory and accreditation surveys; and how to apply these approaches to improve patient safety. The webinar recording is no longer posted on Chartis' website, however you can download a copy of the presentation slides found [here](#).

A key point made by one of the speakers is that most CMS termination actions are triggered by adverse clinical event(s) involving patient harm. And the remedy for such events is to identify Harm Events and then:

- 1). understand the true causes of Harm Events
- 2). focus on and fix the flaws in the systems that cause Harm Events
- 3). sustain improvements

These are actions which align well with NCPS' process of helping protect patients by collaborating with our members through the patient safety organization process of Report, Analyze, Share, Learn, Improve.

Chartis has also provided a Q&A resource on their website which includes the top questions from the webcast. This resource may be found using this [link](#).

NCPS Shared Learning Resources

The NCPS learning resource this month is a Patient Safety Alert on Suicide Prevention. Suicide continues to be on The Joint Commission's 10 Most Common Sentinel Events of 2021 (coming in at #5 with a total of 79 such events reported to them). This resource is an update to an April 2018 Patient Safety Alert with updated references/resources and NCPS data. It may be found [here](#) as well as on the NCPS website within our members only portal. (www.nepatientsafety.org/members/member-login.html).

Learning Opportunities for NCPS Members

Webinar: Updates to the Clinical Management of Mild Chronic Hypertension in Obstetrical Patients

This is a reminder of the July 14th webinar that NCPS and NPQIC are offering to inform attendees of the recent changes made to the best practices for managing mild chronic hypertension in pregnant patients based on the CHAP Project (Chronic Hypertension and Pregnancy Project). Dr. Sean Kenney, a Maternal Fetal Medicine Specialist at Bryan Health Center for Maternal and Fetal Care will be our speaker. CME for physicians and physician assistants as well as CEUs for nursing will be available for this program.

Register [here](#) for the July 14th 1pm webinar.

Webinar: Getting to Know Your LGBTQ+ Patients

AORN is sponsoring this June 12th webinar which will provide attendees with strategies for providing culturally sensitive care and a better understanding of core vocabulary related to sexual orientation and gender identity. CEU are available for attendees.

Register [here](#) for the July 12, 12:00 noon CST webinar.

Patient Safety Resources

Instruments for measuring patient safety competencies in nursing: a scoping review

Patient safety competencies in nursing are essential for the provision of quality healthcare. This 2011 systematic review published online in the BMJ Open Quality, identified nine tools to assess patient safety competence in nurses. The authors suggest future research should consider including ethics in patient safety, and responsiveness to change, over time. The complete article may be found [here](#).

AHRQ Releases New Common Formats for Event Reporting of Diagnostic Safety Events

You may have seen on AHRQ's website that they recently released a new common format for the reporting of diagnostic safety events. It has long been realized that improving diagnosis and reducing diagnostic error are patient safety priorities; yet the existing tools to analyze diagnostic safety events (i.e. diagnoses that are delayed, wrong, missed, or not communicated to the patient) are not structured to collect data in a standardized manner which then allows analysis and sharing of lessons learned. This 1.0 version of common formats for Diagnostic Safety Events is an attempt to bridge that deficit in the existing common formats. The Diagnostic Safety common formats are considerably different in their layout than the current common formats so we will be working with our software vendor and our members to determine how we might best incorporate this new tool into our event reporting. For those wanting to review them, you may find them [here](#).

COVID-19 RESOURCES

Impact of COVID-19 Vaccination

Authors of this study published in the JAMA Network Open estimate that between December 2020 and September 2021 COVID-19 vaccinations prevented 27 million infections, 1.6 million hospitalizations, and 235, 000 deaths. Find the article [here](#).

Washington Post Interview with Dr. Anthony Fauci: The pandemic is waning. Anthony Fauci has a few more lessons to share.

Prior to March of 2020 the name Anthony Fauci and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) which he has been director of since 1984, were unknown to the American public. As he became America's most famous doctor on mitigating COVID-19, his name has become recognizable to all. Whether you appreciate the work he has led or dislike him for the work he has led, this in depth [interview](#) offers an interesting read and insights into Dr. Fauci that you have probably not previously heard .

James Lawler, MD, MPH Weekly Corona Virus Updates

In Dr. Lawler's July 5th post he shares information on the global impact of COVID-19 vaccine to mortality. You can access the recording [here](#).

For more information about NCPS and the services we offer, please contact Carla Snyder MT(ASCP)SBB, MHA, Patient Safety Program Director at: carlasnyder@unmc.edu

Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove®

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

986055 NE Medical Center
Omaha, NE | 68198 US

This email was sent to .
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.