

# CONFIDENTIALITY & PRIVILEGE PROTECTIONS

Confidentiality and privilege protections can help overcome provider fear of liability exposure for sharing information about patient safety events or unsafe conditions and participating in quality improvement activities.

## FEDERAL PROTECTIONS

Federal protections are broader than most state protections, so all licensed or certified healthcare providers (facilities and individuals) can participate with NCPS.

# PROTECTIONS ARE NATIONWIDE AND UNIFORM

Healthcare providers and systems can share protected information among affiliated providers in multiple states through NCPS membership.

## SHARED LEARNING

Members benefit from the insights gained by NCPS evaluative reports and aggregate data analyses from multiple providers, especially for high risk, low volume patient safety events.

# NCPS: A Patient Safety Organization Serving the Region

### WHAT IS NCPS?

The Nebraska Coalition for Patient Safety (NCPS) is designated by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality as a federally listed Patient Safety Organization (PSO). NCPS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with a governing board of representatives from five founding organizations in Nebraska. Although NCPS is located on the University of Nebraska Medical Center campus, it is non-partisan and not affiliated with any one hospital or healthcare system.

#### HOW WAS NCPS FORMED?

In 2005, the Nebraska Legislature passed the Patient Safety Improvement Act which called for formation of a PSO in Nebraska to encourage a culture of safety to improve the safety and quality of healthcare delivery in the region. NCPS was formed in 2006.

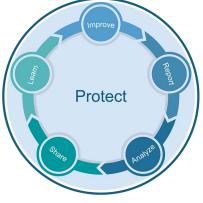
#### **HOW IS NCPS FUNDED?**

NCPS is currently funded by membership fees. In 2020, NCPS will receive additional funding through the Patient Safety Cash Fund established through Legislative Bill 25. This Bill was endorsed by the Nebraska Medical Association and the Nebraska Academy of Physician Assistants.



A healthcare provider can only obtain the confidentiality and privilege protections of the Patient Safety Act by working with a federally listed PSO.

> Visit our website: www.nepatientsafety.org



**REPORT:** Providers report patient safety information to NCPS confidentially and without fear of legal discovery.

**ANALYZE:** NCPS data experts collect and analyze data from multiple providers, to identify trends and patterns. NCPS assists healthcare providers in investigating single events and analyzing aggregate data in a protected and confidential manner.

**SHARE:** Through event analysis, NCPS shares insight into underlying causes of patient safety events and provides members with education and resources as part of the feedback loop in the reporting relationships.

**LEARN:** Lessons learned from event reports can be used to prevent future patient safety events.

**IMPROVE**: NCPS assists providers with developing effective approaches to improve patient safety and quality through the use of their safety event data.



# ALL TYPES OF LICENSED PROVIDERS (INDIVIDUAL AND ENTITIES) CAN BE SERVED BY NCPS. FOR EXAMPLE:

- Individual licensed healthcare professional
- Hospital
- Long-term care facility
- Comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation facility
- Home health agency
- Hospice program
- Renal dialysis facility
- Ambulatory surgical center
- Pharmacy
- Physician or health care practitioner's office (includes a group practice)
- Nursing facility
- Behavioral health residential treatment facility
- Clinical laboratory
- Health center

For more information on any of our services please visit: www.nepatientsafety.org

#### FOUNDING ORGANIZATIONS

- Nebraska Academy of Physician
- Assistants
- Nebraska Hospital Association
- Nebraska Medical Association
- Nebraska Nurses Association
- Nebraska Pharmacists Association

# Services and Member Benefits

Sharing the learning from events that are reported to NCPS is an integral component of the PSO - provider learning and feedback system. De-identified Events and Patient Safety Alerts are developed based on reports submitted to NCPS.

These shared learning reports include lessons learned from event investigations, evidence-based best practices, and other resources for improvement.

# **Educational Offerings**

- Webinars and in-person education offerings are developed based on needs identified from event reports and current patient safety topics.
- De-Identified Events
- Patient Safety Alerts
- Reporting Committee Summaries
- Organizational Patient Safety Self-Assessments
- Pain Management and Opioid Oversight
- Promoting Patient Engagement to Improve Safety
- Alliance for Quality Improvement and Patient Safety (AQIPS):
  - Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act Case Law/Discovery Training, and
  - Creating a Patient Safety Evaluation System, Step-by-Step
- Katten Law:
  - Integrating Medical Staffs in a Multi-Hospital System: Challenges, Options and Proposed Solutions



## ADDITIONAL SERVICES AVAILABLE

Just Culture Training for Healthcare Leaders

Root Cause Analysis Training

Surveys on Patient Safety Culture™ (SOPS®)

TeamSTEPPS Training®

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Nebraska Pharmacists Association