

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



NCPS Update February 2021

A Message from the Patient Safety Program Director

Regina Nailon PhD, RN

Each February the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) partners with The Heart Truth to celebrate **American Heart Month** to raise awareness about heart health and encourage Americans to find ways to effectively reduce risk factors for developing heart disease; a critically important goal given the fact that people with compromised cardiovascular health are also at increased risk of severe illness from COVID-19. The NHLBI created The Heart Truth in 2002, as the first federally sponsored national health education program that was designed to raise awareness about heart disease as the leading cause of death in women – especially targeting women ages 40-60. Since that time, the focus has expanded to reaching younger women. The Red Dress[®] remains the national symbol for women and heart disease. However, heart disease does not just affect women. According to the CDC, in 2017, 347,879 men died from heart disease in the U.S. A number of federal organizations and other groups across the country annually celebrate “[National Wear Red Day](#)” on the first Friday of February to draw attention to heart disease as one of the leading causes of death for Americans, and to raise awareness of the importance of understanding the risk factors for developing heart disease and how to mitigate them. This year’s American Heart Month centers around a day-of-the-week theme: 7 Days of Self Care. Click [here](#) to learn more, and to find ways that you can take part in heart month!



NCPS Shared Learning Resource: Patient Safety Brief

This month’s learning resource is a patient safety brief that focuses on the background and purpose of the patient safety organization program, and the importance of reporting safety events to NCPS. Regular reporting: 1) allows shared learning from aggregate analysis of reported events to help our members improve safety of care delivery, and 2) allows our members to maintain federal confidentiality and privilege protections. You can also access and download this brief by visiting our webpage: <https://www.nepatientsafety.org/members/reporting-safety-events/why-it-is-important-to-report.html>

NCPS Membership Information

Annual NCPS Membership Renewals

Notices will be sent via email to renew your organization’s NCPS membership for 2021. Membership fees will be adjusted to reflect a 3% annual increase. Please contact Gail Brondum, Executive Director at gail.brondum@unmc.edu if you need additional information or have questions about membership renewal.

Updating Membership Agreements and Business Associate Agreements

We are working on updating membership agreements and business associate agreements to ensure they reflect current practices and legal requirements. If your organization's agreements with NCPS have not been updated within the past year, we will send new agreements to your key contact so this can be completed. For more information about membership agreements, contact Gail Brondum, Executive Director at gail.brondum@unmc.edu.



Learning Opportunities for NCPS Members

NCPS Webinar and Safe Table Discussion: Suicide Risk Assessment and Safety Planning

DATE: Tuesday, February 23, 2021 from 12 – 1:30 PM Central Time

PRESENTER: David Cates PhD, Director, Behavioral Health, Nebraska Medicine Vice Chair of Clinical Operations, Department of Psychiatry, University of Nebraska Medical Center, and a Licensed Psychologist.

AUDIENCE: Quality improvement and patient safety staff persons in hospital settings, along with leaders and managers who have decision-making capacity for improving patient safety and quality of care in the hospital setting.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this program is to introduce concepts and tools to screen for suicide and collaboratively develop a safety plan.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Identify two strategies for establishing rapport with suicidal patients.
2. Distinguish between a wish to be dead, suicidal ideation with a method, and suicidal ideation with intent and plan.
3. Identify the seven components of a suicide safety plan.

REGISTRATION: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7196751517504469263>

A Safe Table is a meeting open to patient safety organization (PSO) members only.

- During a Safe Table, a patient safety topic is discussed, and all are invited to share similar events that have occurred in their facilities, and what processes and practices were put in place to mitigate risk and improve safety.
- The conversations are held as part of each facility's patient safety evaluation system and are safeguarded from legal discovery through the privilege and confidentiality protections given to PSO members that work with federally listed PSOs such as NCPS.

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.

☑ **Root Cause Analysis (RCA) Innovation Virtual Summit and Pre-Summit Webinars**

The Hospital Quality Institute (HQI) along with California Hospital PSO (CHPSO) and the Alliance for Quality Improvement and Patient Safety (AQIPS) are partnering to present a series of pre-summit webinars that set the stage for a half-day virtual RCA summit on April 14.

- This is an opportunity for health care professionals to learn more about Root Cause Analysis best practices but also the innovation that utilizes the National Peer Protections (Patient Safety Act) to improve the processes and the delivery of patient care throughout the health care continuum.
- See dates below for this educational offering that is **free and available to NCPS members**. For more information, the agenda, and to register for one or all in the series, visit: <https://www.hqinstitute.org/rca-summit> [nam02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com]

NOTE: Please select "AQIPS Member" when completing the "Registration Type" information.

- **February 16** 1 – 2 pm Central Time: *Diagramming/Causal Analysis*
- **February 25** 1 – 2 pm Central Time: *RCA Review and Feedback*
- **March 4** 1 – 2 pm Central Time: *RCA 101/RCA Triggers*
- **March 23** 1 – 2 pm Central Time: *Bias Affecting RCA*
- **April 14** 11 AM to 3 PM Central Time: *RCA Innovation Summit*

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

- ✓ Read a [case study](#) about how an accountable care joined the Age-Friendly Health Systems movement to advance its leaders' determination to reduce harm, improve patient experience, and reduce length of stay for older adults in their health system.

- ✓ [How to Reduce Risk for Older Adults with Age-Friendly Care](#)

This article dispels 5 myths about care for older adults that may impact clinical outcomes and provides guidance on reducing risks posed to this population.

The Nebraska Hospital Association [website](#) contains valuable Age-Friendly Care information and resources to help you learn more about how your organization can achieve recognition as an Age-Friendly Health System.

COVID-19 Resources

- ✓ **Working with Patient Safety Organizations (PSOs): The value for Hospitals during COVID-19 and Beyond**

This webinar from the Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality, recorded November 5, 2020, informs hospital leaders and others who are not familiar with PSOs about the unique advantages of working with PSOs to improve patient safety and healthcare quality.

The seminar provides:

- An introduction to the PSO program
- Insights on perceived value of PSOs from participating hospitals
- Examples of how PSOs have helped hospitals during COVID-19
- A demonstration of how PSO participation can save hospitals money and avert adverse events.

Access the webinar [here](#).

✓ **ECRI COVID-19 Guidelines**

ECRI provides the healthcare community with the latest information and resources through their COVID-19 Resource Center. They currently have 145 [COVID-19 guidelines](#), as categorized below:

- [Critical Care](#)
- [General](#)
- [General Pediatrics](#)
- [Laboratory](#)
- [Long-term Care](#)
- [Special Populations](#)
- [Women's Health](#)

✓ **Nebraska COVID-19 Vaccination Plan**

Now that vaccines are being distributed across the state, you may find it helpful to refer to the Nebraska COVID-19 Vaccination Plan for guidance. Of particular importance is the requirement to report any potential adverse reaction through the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS). Click [here](#) to access the Plan. The DRAFT watermark is purposely part of the document because it is a fluid document, and DHHS is frequently making changes to it. Click [here](#) to access additional vaccine-related information for healthcare providers and the general public.

✓ **Iowa COVID-19 Vaccination Strategy**

Click [here](#) to access the Iowa Department of Public Health COVID-19 Vaccination Strategy. Because it is a fluid document, the Draft on the title page is purposely placed there. Find additional vaccine-related information for healthcare providers and the general public by clicking [here](#).

✓ **COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution & Administration – Is your Health System Prepared?**

Click [here](#) to register to view a free recording of a live-streamed lab webcast conducted by ECRI on December 16. The webcast focused on the following topics:

- Key steps facilities must follow to safely handle and administer the vaccine
- Best practices for storing and handling dry ice
- Critical supplies to have and which ones you can do without
- Dosage preparation and helpful strategies to avoid cross-contamination

✓ **COVID-19 Update for Outpatient, Small and Rural Hospitals for DHHS Region VII (NE, IA, MO, KS)**

Every other Tuesday

12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Central TIME

<https://unmc.zoom.us/j/168131463> [t.e2ma.net]

Dial in Number: (669) 900-6833

Webinar ID: 168 131 463