

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

## **NCPS Newsletter: June 2020**

### **A Message from the Executive Director**

#### **What you should know about Legislative Bill 25:**

As you may know, NCPS was formed in 2006 through the collaborative efforts of the Nebraska Hospital Association, Nebraska Medical Association, Nebraska Academy of Physician Assistants, Nebraska Pharmacists Association, and Nebraska Nurses Association at the direction of the Nebraska Patient Safety Improvement Act of 2005. Since its beginning, NCPS has been engaged with hospitals across Nebraska and western Iowa, supporting them in their patient safety improvement efforts. However, we know that only a small percentage of all health care encounters occur within the acute hospital setting. To make a significant impact on patient safety, NCPS must expand our approach to engage with health care providers across the care continuum to understand and address patient safety problems.

The Nebraska Medical Association and the Nebraska Academy of Physician Assistants have again stepped forward as champions for patient safety by initiating and advocating for the enactment of Legislative Bill 25 (LB25). As a result, a Patient Safety Cash Fund will be created, through the collection of patient safety fees from physicians, osteopathic physicians, and physician assistants. Effective January 1, 2020, physicians and osteopathic physicians will pay a fifty-dollar patient safety fee upon initial licensure and biennial licensure renewal, and physician assistants will pay a twenty-dollar patient safety fee upon initial licensure and biennial licensure renewal. The patient safety fee will end on January 1, 2026, unless extended by the Legislature.

The Patient Safety Cash Fund will only be used to support the activities of a patient safety organization. NCPS will receive these funds, as the state's designated patient safety organization. This additional funding will enable NCPS to increase its capacity to support additional health care providers in various care delivery settings. NCPS has been actively working to improve our infrastructure by adding to our workforce, updating our reporting systems, developing expanded educational offerings, and enhancing communications.

You may get questions about this legislation, the additional licensure fees for physicians and physician assistants, and about NCPS. As always, please distribute this newsletter, and any information from NCPS, widely within your organization. Download several informational flyers to learn more. These are available on the NCPS website.

– Gail Brondum

### **Shared Learning Opportunity for our Members: De-Identified Event**

The focus of this month's De-Identified event is on human and systems factors as they relate to alarm and alert fatigue, and the risks these pose to patient safety when they are ignored or overridden. It is available in the members-only portal of the NCPS website under Resources and Tools: Educational Resources.

Please continue to report patient safety events to NCPS - those that reach the patient with or without harm, and those that pose risk to the safety of the care environment. If each of our hospital members reported one event each month, NCPS would receive over 700 safety events in a year!

***We improve safety when we learn together!***

## Learning Opportunity for NCPS Members



### Agricultural Health and Safety Course

The Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health at the UNMC College of Public Health is offering the 2020 *Agricultural Health and Safety Course* **Free of Charge** to thank our health care providers, emergency services personnel, and those who continue to provide essential services during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- **Live via Zoom July 14-15 (Session A) and July 16-17 (Session B)**
- **Online (on-demand) July 14 - August 14, 2020**

#### Details:

- Earn up to 36.75 hours of AMA PRA, Nursing, EMS, Continuing Education credit at no cost.
- **Registration is required:** Go to [www.unmc.edu/cce/aghealth](http://www.unmc.edu/cce/aghealth)
- The course textbook can be purchased during registration for \$90. All other course materials will be offered at no cost and will be mailed to you (at the address listed on the registration form) one week prior to the course.

**Agenda:** <https://www.unmc.edu/cce/catalog/clinicmed/aghealth/agenda.pdf>

**For questions please contact Ellen Duysen:** [ellen.duysen@unmc.edu](mailto:ellen.duysen@unmc.edu)



### Let's Focus on Reporting

#### The importance of reporting safety events to NCPS: Is your team maintaining a reporting relationship?

The privileges and confidentiality protections granted to NCPS members rely upon each member maintaining a reporting relationship with NCPS. This means that each member needs to be able to demonstrate active engagement in submitting patient safety events and unsafe conditions. How many events has your institution submitted to NCPS this year? Did your institution submit any events in 2019? If not, it is important that your safety team and leaders consider submitting at least one event or unsafe condition each month to maintain a robust reporting relationship to ensure that privileges and confidentiality protections are not lost. You can find the patient safety report form and instructions on how to submit a report in the Tool Kit on the members only portal of the NCPS website ([www.nepatientsafety.org](http://www.nepatientsafety.org)). If you have questions, please contact Gail Brondum ([gail.brondum@unmc.edu](mailto:gail.brondum@unmc.edu)) or Regina Nailon ([regina.nailon@unmc.edu](mailto:regina.nailon@unmc.edu)). We will be happy to help you!

### ☒ **The Importance of Developing and Maintaining a Reporting Culture**

Identifying and reporting unsafe conditions before they can cause harm, trusting that other staff and leadership will act on the report, and taking personal responsibility for one's actions are critical to creating a safety culture and nurturing high reliability within a health care organization. Read the **Joint Commission's Sentinel Event Alert 60: Developing a reporting culture: Learning from close calls and hazardous conditions:**

[https://www.jointcommission.org/-/media/tjc/documents/resources/patient-safety-topics/sentinel-event/sea\\_60\\_reporting\\_culture\\_final.pdf?db=web&hash=5AB072026CAAF4711FCDC343701B0159](https://www.jointcommission.org/-/media/tjc/documents/resources/patient-safety-topics/sentinel-event/sea_60_reporting_culture_final.pdf?db=web&hash=5AB072026CAAF4711FCDC343701B0159)

## **COVID-19 Resources**

### ☒ **COVID-19-Related Medication Errors**

The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) has made their Patient Safety Alert available at no cost. See May 14 issue focusing on COVID-19-Related Medication Errors. Click here to access this free issue: <https://ismp.org/acute-care/special-edition-medication-safety-alert-may-14-2020/covid-19>

### ☒ **COVID-19: Team and Human Factors to Improve Safety**

A new primer from AHRQ's Patient Safety Network describes how human factors engineering can help healthcare teams reduce patient safety risks that arise from stresses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Several patient safety strategies are highlighted – effective use of signage, workflow review and redesign, safety checklists and simulation training – for keeping patients and healthcare providers safe. View here: <https://psnet.ahrq.gov/primer/covid-19-team-and-human-factors-improve-safety>

### ☒ **COVID-19 Resources: Care of Older Adults**

The Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) has compiled a list of national resources about the care of older adults. The collection includes advice on limiting the exposure of older adults to COVID-19 in various care settings, guidance on how to ask and act on What Matters to each older adult, and a free daily call series for nursing homes. View here:

[http://www.ihl.org/Topics/COVID-19/Pages/COVID-19-Care-of-Older-Adults.aspx?utm\\_campaign=2020\\_TW\\_Test&utm\\_medium=Feature&hsmi=88452661&hsenc=p2ANqtZ-9iMrFOAQpbJ8Z5nDJovJ3Jez6Y3ObllODhke8tT8taT5oVdNVcRr5pV4cQi55EO4WvPKWc\\_eAv8garAxxslb0SomkNUA&utm\\_content=Older\\_Adults&utm\\_source=hs\\_email](http://www.ihl.org/Topics/COVID-19/Pages/COVID-19-Care-of-Older-Adults.aspx?utm_campaign=2020_TW_Test&utm_medium=Feature&hsmi=88452661&hsenc=p2ANqtZ-9iMrFOAQpbJ8Z5nDJovJ3Jez6Y3ObllODhke8tT8taT5oVdNVcRr5pV4cQi55EO4WvPKWc_eAv8garAxxslb0SomkNUA&utm_content=Older_Adults&utm_source=hs_email)

### ☒ **COVID-19 Rapid Response Network for Nursing Homes**

IHI conducts A free CALL series, weekdays at 12:00 noon ET. A new Rapid Response Network for Nursing Homes is designed to support nursing home leadership, staff, residents, and communities impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. A daily 20-minute National Nursing Home Huddle provides real-time, pragmatic solutions to improve infection control Click here to register now for the free call series: <http://www.ihl.org/Engage/Initiatives/COVID-19-Rapid-Response-Network-for-Nursing->

[Homes/Pages/default.aspx?utm\\_source=hs\\_email&utm\\_medium=Sign\\_Up&utm\\_campaign=2020\\_TW\\_Test&utm\\_content=Nursing\\_Homes&hsenc=p2ANqtz-9z5PlzHXkCS1\\_XDYUX1BtsZmjUUnedHL3BmRWXhsPd35ljrMUOy4HCyLPd7bDLRIUsNe5OpXYpzcY2PJLEnci2Na4pg&hsmi=87689918](https://www.nursinghomes.com/Pages/default.aspx?utm_source=hs_email&utm_medium=Sign_Up&utm_campaign=2020_TW_Test&utm_content=Nursing_Homes&hsenc=p2ANqtz-9z5PlzHXkCS1_XDYUX1BtsZmjUUnedHL3BmRWXhsPd35ljrMUOy4HCyLPd7bDLRIUsNe5OpXYpzcY2PJLEnci2Na4pg&hsmi=87689918)