

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

NCPS Update: December 2022

A Message from the Executive Director

Emily Barr, OTD, MBA, OTR/L, BCG

Happy holiday season to our NCPS members! I am happy to introduce and welcome two additions to the NCPS team that have joined us this past month. Snehal Jadhav is an MPH student in the Epidemiology Department within the College of Public Health at UNMC. She will be supporting NCPS with capturing safety event reports, data entry and management, and aggregating and analyzing data to promote meaningful learning opportunities for our members. Dr. Patrick Maloney also joins us from the College of Public Health at UNMC and will be serving in a faculty mentor capacity for Snehal. Dr. Maloney currently serves as an Assistant Professor in the Epidemiology Department and as an Epidemiologist with the Division of Public Health for the Nebraska DHHS. We are enthusiastic about our new collaboration with the College of Public Health and eager to work towards the mission and goals of NCPS together.



As 2022 comes to an end, I wanted to take a moment to thank our members, board of directors, NCPS workforce, and all patient safety advocates, for your support this year. We have much to celebrate in terms of achievements this year including the launch of our electronic event reporting platform, membership growth with Nebraska hospitals and ambulatory care settings, several in-person training opportunities, and online webinar and education offerings, to name a few. We look forward to our continued work and collaboration to enhance patient safety in the region as we head into 2023!

NCPS Shared Learning Resources

For this month's shared learning resource please view the recordings of a webinar series, Creating a Culture of Patient Safety, which NCPS has been presenting to a NHA Cohort. The series began in October and has continued with sessions every other week. Each session has focused on a patient safety topic(s). The final session is scheduled for December 14th. The recordings may be found on the NCPS website under the Educational Resources tab> Webinars> Promoting Patient Safety Culture or by clicking on this link: <https://www.nepatientsafety.org/resources-tools/education/webinars.html>

What You Need to Know

NCPS Members' Directory Listing Able to Include Link to Member Organization's Website

The NCPS website has the capability to link your organization's name in our member directory listing to your organization's website. If you would like this connection for your organization, please email ncpssupport@unmc.edu with your organization's name and webpage address. We will insert that link so that anyone looking at the NCPS Membership Listing can easily move to your organization's website by clicking on your organization's name.

Learning Opportunities for NCPS Members

AORN Webinar: Managing Unconscious Bias in Healthcare

The Association of periOperative Registered Nurses is hosting a complementary webinar with award-winning author and keynote speaker Dima Ghawi. The goal of the webinar is to help attendees discover stereotypes or attitudes they may unknowingly hold. The nuances of different bias types and how to mitigate these hidden frameworks from influencing your practice or interfering with positive patient outcomes healthcare will be explored.

Register [here](#) for the December 8th, 12 noon webinar. This complimentary webinar is approved for 1 contact hour.

Sepsis Alliance Healthcare-Associated Infection (HAI) Mini-Summit:

The CDC reports that one in every 31 hospital patients has at least one HAI each day, and HAIs can often lead to complications like sepsis. This half-day clinical program of free, virtual expert-led content on December 15, 2022 will feature sessions on several critical HAI-related topics. Attendees will gain updated clinical knowledge and recommendations for timely infection prevention and treatment. Additionally attendees will be awarded 4.20 CE contact hours. The mini-summit begins at 11am CST. The full agenda and registration information for the event may be found [here](#).

Collaboration Opportunities for NCPS Members

AHRQ Safety Program for MRSA Prevention

Beginning in January 2023, AHRQ is offering a program which combines evidence-based guidance with implementation strategies to address the attitudes, beliefs, culture, and barriers that often pose challenges to optimizing infection prevention practices.

AHRQ is currently recruiting surgical services team to participate in the free 18-month program that seeks to reduce surgical site infections (SSIs), with a focus on methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA). This program can help you enhance your infection prevention program and prevent SSIs, including SSIs caused by MRSA, by utilizing evidence-based prevention strategies including chlorhexidine gluconate (CHG) treatment (bathing), decolonization, MRSA surveillance, antimicrobial prophylaxis, improvement of hand antisepsis and hand hygiene, and implementation of evidence-based infection prevention bundles.

Participation in this AHRQ program will provide your surgical services with technical assistance, coaching, webinars, and tools to support their infection prevention program. To learn more and register for the program click [here](#).

Patient Safety Resources

Avoiding Drift Into Harm

Given the ubiquitous risk of errors across all healthcare settings, leaders need to take action regardless of their organization's record on, or reputation for, safety. A new article in *Healthcare Executive* outlines specific steps leaders can take to reinforce. The article may be found [here](#).

AHRQ's My Medicines List

Medications, prescription and over-the-counter, can be difficult for people to keep track of; and can result in events of harm if taken incorrectly or inadvertently omitted. AHRQ has developed a tool to make it easy for people to remember when, how much, and how to take their medicines and share information with healthcare providers. Available free in both English and Spanish, "My Medicines List" will come in handy for clinical visits and emergencies. Please check it out and share it with patients, staff, and colleagues. It may be found [here](#).

COVID-19 Resources

Without Guidelines, Docs Make Their Own Long COVID Protocols

A recent article in MedScape discusses the issue of the lack of clinical guidelines for Long COVID and the impact this has on physicians who are seeing patients with this condition. A lack of research into the condition is in large part the issue. You can find the article [here](#).

James Lawlor, MD, MPH COVID Weekly Podcast

In his November 29th podcast titled, Triple Threat, Dr. Lawlor reviews recent epidemiologic data for COVID, RSV, and Influenza infections. The recording may be found [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

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