

A forum for sharing knowledge

Each year the coalition brings together health care stakeholders from around the state to network with each other and learn from nationally recognized safety experts. Renowned speakers for *Patient Safety Solutions: Cutting-Edge Strategies for All Health Care Settings – From Hospitals to Ambulatory Care*, the sixth annual conference set for March 2007, included:

- Robert Wachter, MD, moving the discussion of patient safety into the ambulatory care setting
- Nancy Schlichting, president and CEO, Henry Ford Health System, and Greg Forzley, MD, St. Mary's Health Care, leading a conversation with the audience about patient safety
- Sorrel King, mother of Josie King, a toddler who died from a patient safety error and founder of the Josie King Foundation

The coalition's guiding principles

Vision: Everyone in Michigan — whether providing, receiving or paying for care — is focused on the prevention of harm, relentlessly questioning how we can do things better and safer.

Mission: The Michigan Health and Safety Coalition will help improve health care quality in Michigan through cost-effective improvements in patient safety, including medical errors, across all health care settings.

Goals:

- Provide leadership and share knowledge on patient safety issues in Michigan
- Develop and/or support systemic approaches to identifying and learning from errors with a focus on continuous improvement
- Encourage the establishment of performance standards for patient safety, medical error reporting and continuous improvement; and encourage the provision of positive incentives for improved performance
- Support a culture of safety by encouraging the implementation of safety systems in health care organizations

Diverse membership

Coalition members include key health care stakeholders in Michigan.

- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan
- DaimlerChrysler Corporation
- Ford Motor Company
- General Motors Corporation
- Michigan Association of Health Plans
- Michigan Consumer Health Care Coalition
- Michigan Department of Community Health
- Michigan Education Special Services Association
- Michigan Health & Hospital Association
- Michigan Nurses Association
- Michigan Osteopathic Association
- Michigan Pharmacists Association
- Michigan State Medical Society
- MPRO, Michigan's Healthcare Quality Improvement Organization

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CONTINUING TOWARD A CULTURE OF SAFETY IN HEALTH CARE

The Michigan Health and Safety Coalition is a nonprofit charitable corporation 501 (c)(3) focused on increasing patient safety across all health care settings, through collaborative quality improvement efforts.

mihealthandsafety.org

Many views, one shared goal

Michigan Health and Safety Coalition members represent many interests and points of view, and they share one commitment: *to improve the safety and quality of health care in Michigan*. Through the coalition, doctors, nurses, pharmacists, health professionals, business leaders, insurers, health plans, consumers and others collaborate on patient safety.

The coalition's accomplishments include:

- **Service** as the Michigan State Commission on Patient Safety and the resulting report, *Call to Action: A Plan to Improve Patient Safety in Michigan's Health Care System*
- **Annual conference** that features nationally known safety experts and draws health care leaders from across the state
- **Collaboration** with health care providers to make care safer in targeted areas

Ongoing areas of interest include:

- **Promoting innovation:** The coalition monitors safety initiatives and promotes advances through its meetings and conferences.
- **Health information technology:** The coalition provides resources and advocates for a statewide information technology network.

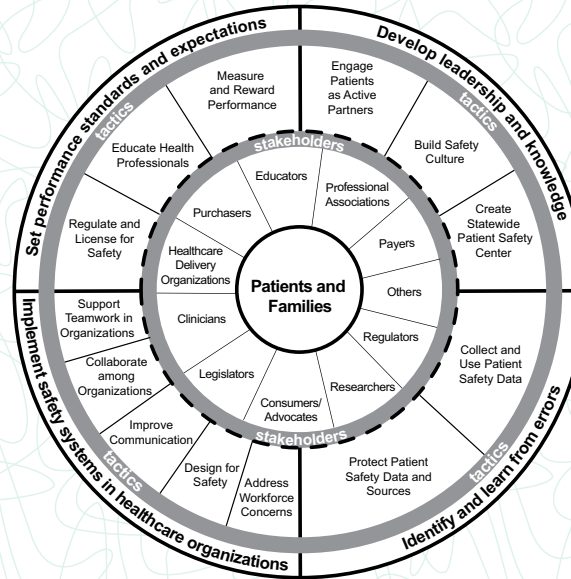
Call to Action: Report to the Governor and Michigan citizens

In fall 2004, the coalition accepted Gov. Jennifer Granholm's invitation to act as the Michigan State Commission on Patient Safety, as established by PA 119-04. The commission was charged with examining ways to improve patient safety and reduce medical errors in Michigan.

Expertise gathered from many sources

The commission sought input from health care stakeholders and the general public through public hearings held in November 2004. An analytic team aggregated the testimony and related research and literature, and drafted recommendations. A review panel further refined the recommendations and considered their feasibility and resource requirements, before final vetting by the full commission.

The coalition's vision puts patients and families at the center of care, surrounded by the stakeholders needed to achieve safer care. The stakeholders are encircled by the 13 objectives from the commission's report. The objectives are sorted into four categories, which mirror the framework established by the Institute of Medicine in its groundbreaking report, *To Err is Human*.



Status

The coalition is now working to implement the Michigan State Commission on Patient Safety report recommendations, including:

- Involving patients as active health care partners
- Creating a Michigan Center for Safe Health Care (needs legislation)
- Building a culture of safety
- Implementing a voluntary, confidential non-punitive patient safety reporting system across locations of care
- Protecting patient safety data and sources (requires legislation)
- Addressing workforce shortages effectively
- Improving communication of critical health care information more effectively
- And others

The SCPS report was publicly released in 2006 and is available on the MH&SC Web site at mihealthandsafety.org/statecommission/index.html.

Improving patient safety in hospitals

The MH&SC was one of the first organizations in the country to develop evidence-based patient safety guidelines and measure hospital adherence to these guidelines through an annual survey. Since 2002, the coalition has surveyed hospitals and compared the results to the recommended guidelines for seven areas of care and for care provided in the intensive care unit. Beginning in 2003, a joint survey tool was used to collect MH&SC and The Leapfrog Group data. Individual hospital responses are available to the public on the MH&SC Web site and summary reports are shared with participating hospitals for internal improvement.

From research to results

The voluntary participation of Michigan hospitals has been high over the first five years of the survey. The MH&SC is using these results to focus improvement efforts.

- The results over the first five years show marked improvement in some areas of care, especially for complex cardiovascular procedures, while other areas of care are in need of improvement. The MH&SC is undertaking new collaborative initiatives to address these areas.
- Hospitals use their results in their improvement efforts to benchmark their performance against those of other hospitals and the coalition guidelines.
- Patients considering their hospital choices can view the coalition's reader-friendly consumer report online to compare hospitals.
- Health plans in Michigan receive a summary report of the hospitals in their contracted networks for use in their internal operations.