

Safe Passages

Safe Passages is a publication of the Michigan Health and Safety Coalition.

Volume 2, Issue 3

Leapfrog Hospital Survey: Top hospitals, data now on MH&SC Web site

Several Michigan hospitals have received Leapfrog's Top Hospital designation, an achievement that recognizes their commitment to assuring patients and payers alike that they are committed to the highest standards of quality and safety. Congratulations to:

- Children's Hospital of Michigan, Detroit
- Detroit Receiving Hospital/University Health Center, Detroit
- Harper-Hutzel Hospital, Detroit
- Henry Ford Macomb Hospital, Clinton Township
- Saint Mary's Health Care, Grand Rapids
- Sinai-Grace Hospital, Detroit
- University of Michigan Hospitals and Health Centers, Ann Arbor

As of Aug. 31, 2008, 86 hospitals had completed the hospital survey, a response rate of 62.3 percent. Michigan is the third highest statewide Regional Rollout Organization and has a higher participation rate than the national average of 38.8 percent. A listing of these individual hospitals and summarized participation rate information can be found on the Michigan Health and Safety Coalition's Web site, mihealthandsafety.org.

The 2008 Leapfrog Hospital Survey is open until late March 2009, so hospitals are encouraged to submit their responses. Individual hospital results can be found at leapfroggroup.org.



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MH&SC article part of AHRQ compendium

An article from the Michigan Health and Safety Coalition is in a new compendium published by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality titled *Advances in Patient Safety: New Directions and Alternative Approaches*. The article, titled “From Public Testimony to Vehicle for Statewide Action: Experience of the Michigan State Commission on Patient Safety,” can be read by clicking [here](#).

The article was written by Diane Valade, M.S.; A.B. Orlik; Ruth Mohr, R.N., M.P.H., Ph.D.; Vicky Debold, R.N., Ph.D.; AkkeNeel Talsma, R.N., Ph.D.; Beverly McDonald; and Thomas Simmer, M.D.

The compendium contains 115 original research papers. The four-volume set highlights new knowledge and lessons learned in such critical areas as reporting systems, risk assessment, health information technology, clinical process redesign and medical simulation. To order a single copy of the printed compendium or a CD-ROM, send an e-mail to ahrqpubs@ahrq.gov.

MPRO launches new quality improvement initiatives

MPRO, Michigan’s Quality Improvement Organization (a member of the Michigan Health and Safety Coalition) has launched a new three-year quality improvement contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Known more commonly as the 9th Scope of Work, the focus is on efforts to improve quality and safety of health care in a number of areas. Defined themes of work include:

- Beneficiary protection
- Patient safety
- Prevention
- Care transitions

Under the 9SOW, MPRO continues to conduct quality of care reviews provided to Medicare beneficiaries and review beneficiary appeals of certain provider notices. Individual patient complaints and provider medical reviews are important starting points for analysis of quality improvement needs among providers. In addition, MPRO uses care review data to identify programs related to the quality of care and then designs quality improvement activities aimed at helping Michigan providers correct these problems.

Patient safety

This theme focuses on areas of patient harm where evidence indicates ways to increase safety by improving health care processes and systems. MPRO works with providers to attain the following:

- Reduce rates of health care associated methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus, or MRSA, infections

- Reduce rates of pressure ulcers in nursing homes and hospitals
- Reduce rates of physical restraint use in nursing homes
- Improve inpatient surgical safety and heart failure treatment in hospitals
- Provide quality improvement technical assistance to nursing homes in need

Prevention

The Prevention theme consists of improving screening rates for breast and colorectal cancers, and immunization rates for flu and pneumonia. This project builds upon the 8th Scope of Work Doctor’s Office Quality Information Technology, or DOQ-IT, project. It requires recruitment of physician offices with Certification Commission for Healthcare Information Technology certified electronic health record systems. MPRO works in the ambulatory care setting by assisting physician offices in developing interventions that optimize their use of electronic health records to improve preventive disease screening, office workflow, process redesign and data reporting.

Care transitions

MPRO is collaborating with providers in Clinton, Ingham and Eaton counties to improve coordination of care across settings to promote seamless transitions from hospital to home, skilled nursing care or home health care. MPRO and the selected providers in Mid-Michigan are partnering on initiatives to reduce unnecessary readmissions to hospitals that may increase risk or harm to patient and cost to Medicare.

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Contact us

Michigan Health and Safety Coalition
Mail Code B713
27000 W. Eleven Mile Road
Southfield, MI 48034

Phone: 248-448-0023

Fax: 248-448-0058

Web site: mihealthandsafety.org

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Michigan Education Special Services Association

Michigan Health & Hospital Association

Michigan Nurses Association

Michigan Osteopathic Association

Michigan Pharmacists Association

Michigan State Medical Society

MPRO

Ann Arbor hospitals receive grant to help prevent UTIs

The Ann Arbor VA Medical Center and U-M Health System received a \$1.7 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to fund an effort that will help hospitals understand the best ways to prevent urinary tract infections and thereby avoid costs they can't recoup.

The federal government will no longer pay for the cost of treating hospital-acquired urinary tract infections, and many private insurers, including Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, are following suit. But UTIs are one of the most common infections that patients get in the hospital.

The grant will allow a team from the U-M/VA Patient Safety Enhancement Program to review hospitals' best practices and what stands in the way of effective prevention programs. The team will also work directly with some Michigan hospitals to help them with their prevention programs and see what impact those efforts will have on infection rates.

This project dovetails with the Hospital-Associated Infection Project that 112 Michigan hospitals are now participating in through the Keystone Center for Patient Safety and Quality at the Michigan Health & Hospital Association. The MHA Keystone Center offers a set of Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infection Prevention Practices that hospitals statewide are starting to implement.



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The 9SOW began on Aug. 1, 2008, and will run through July 31, 2011. Quality improvement activities are guided by the CMS Health Care Quality Improvement Program created in 1992. For further information on initiatives, visit MPRO online at mpro.org, or call 866-913-MPRO (6776) and ask to speak with a team member for any of the four themes listed on Page 2.