

Safe Passages

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

Volume 1, Issue 2

Welcome

Welcome to the latest issue of *Safe Passages*, the newsletter from the Michigan Health and Safety Coalition. This newsletter will keep you apprised of coalition activities and other information related to improving patient safety in Michigan.

We welcome your input. If you have any comments, suggestions for article topics or article submissions, please contact newsletter Editor Carolyn Willemsen, at cwillemsen@bcbsm.com. Please tell us what you like about the newsletter, or tell us how we can improve it.



Thank you for your interest in the Michigan Health and Safety Coalition. I hope you enjoy our newsletter.

Thomas Simmer MD

Thomas Simmer, M.D.
Board Chair and President, Michigan Health and Safety Coalition

Part 2

MH&SC takes a new direction with its hospital survey

The Michigan Health and Safety Coalition plans to put special emphasis on the safety issues unique to small and rural hospitals, beginning this year. As we explained in the last issue of *Safe Passages*, the MH&SC is discontinuing its annual hospital survey in favor of using those resources to combat patient safety issues specific to Michigan.

The MH&SC hospital patient safety practices survey was one of the first of its kind in the country. Development of the survey began in 2001, before any national consensus-based patient safety practices existed. To fill this void, MH&SC convened Michigan-based clinical expert panels to develop the MH&SC hospital guidelines. Creating and maintaining our own guidelines was resource-intensive, but made sense when no other source of consensus-based patient safety practices was available.

Today there is a much different environment. Several sources of national patient safety guidelines exist, including the Joint Commission, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and the National Quality Forum.

SURVEY continued on Page 6

Features

MH&SC takes a new direction with its hospital survey	1
Michigan hospitals completing The Leapfrog Group survey	2
New members join MH&SC Board and steering committee	3
Save the date	3
Coalition members partner to make surgery safer	4
U of M doctor receives award	4
Coalition plans to offer TeamSTEPPS training.....	5
Conference sponsorship opportunities available.....	5
Adverse drug events increase between 1998 and 2005	6



Michigan hospitals completing The Leapfrog Group survey

For the first time since 2002, the Michigan Health and Safety Coalition did not conduct its annual hospital survey this year. (See the related article on Page 1.) MH&SC continues to support the efforts of national groups, such as The Leapfrog Group, to collect data based on national consensus-based patient safety guidelines.

In Michigan, hospitals are responding to The Leapfrog Group's 2007 Hospital Quality and Safety Survey, which runs through March 2008. As of Aug. 31, 56 percent of targeted rural and urban hospitals in Michigan had completed the online survey. Participation in the survey demonstrates hospitals' commitment to improving patient safety to health care consumers and purchasers in Michigan and around the country.

Leapfrog bases its survey on the National Quality Forum Safe Practices and other national guidelines. The survey results provide Michigan residents with information about patient safety in the state. Survey results are posted on The Leapfrog Group Web site at leapfroggroup.org and are updated monthly.

Top hospitals for 2007

The Leapfrog Group has announced its top hospitals for 2007, based on performance on the 2007 Leapfrog survey. The list is available on its Web site at leapfroggroup.org. The MH&SC congratulates the Michigan hospitals that made the list, and all hospitals that participated in the survey.

Survey results provide Michigan residents with information about patient safety in the state.



New members join MH&SC board and steering committee

Three new members have been appointed to the Michigan Health and Safety Coalition: Janet Olszewski and Emmanuel Curry to the board and Lynda Rossi to the steering committee.

Olszewski is the director of the Michigan Department of Community Health, a position she has held since Gov. Jennifer Granholm appointed her Jan. 1, 2003. The MDCH is responsible for health policy and management of Michigan's publicly funded health systems.

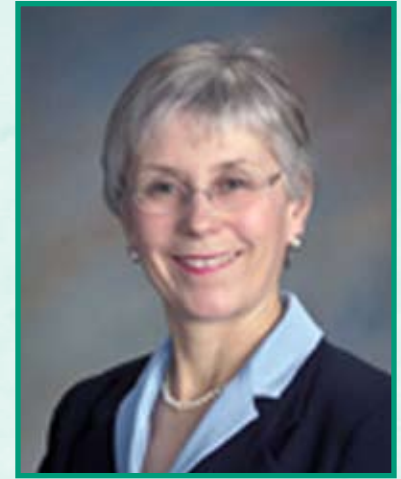
Olszewski has a long career in health care. Prior to joining MDCH, she was vice president for government programs and regulation at M-CARE. Before that, she spent 23 years with the state of Michigan, working in a variety of positions.

In addition to serving on the MH&SC's board, Olszewski serves on the Southeast Michigan Medical Education Taskforce, the Greater Detroit Area Health Council, the Michigan Homeland Protection Board, the University of Michigan Depression Center National Advisory Board, the Access to Care Coalition, the ASTHO Taskforce on Policy and Governance and the Council for Labor and Economic Growth. She is a graduate of Boston University, and she earned a master's degree in social work from the University of Michigan.

Emmanuel Curry, MPH, is a senior healthcare analyst at Ford Motor Company in Dearborn.

Lynda Rossi is the vice president of Public Policy and Social Mission at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. She joined BCBSM in July 2007 after a distinguished career in Michigan state government, where she served as a respected and influential voice on public policy matters for both the legislative and executive branches.

Rossi began her career as a policy analyst for the Michigan Senate Democratic Office and advanced quickly into leadership, becoming executive director of the office in 1996. There she played a key role in advising legislative leaders and developing legislative solutions on a number of public policy fronts. She left the position in 2003 to become chief of staff for Lt. Gov. John Cherry. Prior to joining BCBSM, Rossi was deputy chief of staff for strategic initiatives for Granholm. Rossi has a bachelor's degree from Michigan State University.



▲ Janet Olszewski



▲ Lynda Rossi

Save the date

Mark your calendars! The 2008 Michigan Health and Safety Coalition Annual Patient Safety Conference will be April 2 and 3 at the Somerset Inn in Troy. The coalition will post conference details as they become available on its Web site at mihealthandsafety.org.



Coalition members partner to make surgery safer

Two Michigan Health and Safety Coalition members, the Michigan Health & Hospital Association's Keystone Center for Patient Safety & Quality and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, are working with William Beaumont Hospitals to make surgery safer through best-practice, evidence-based medicine.

A key aspect of the initiative is communication. Surgical teams are conducting one-to two-minute preoperative briefings to ensure that team members have communicated every aspect of each case among themselves and that any questions or concerns they have are addressed.

Topics for discussion include: the operative plan, patient risks, potential hazards, safety concerns and knowledge of equipment needed for each case. In addition to the briefings, other goals of

the initiative are to reduce the number of mislabeled specimens, eliminate surgical site infections and create a climate of safety for staff.

Beaumont Hospitals, which performed 75,637 surgeries in 2006, implemented preoperative communication briefings in October 2006 as part of a pilot project.

"The over-arching goal of the MHA Keystone Center for Patient Safety & Quality is to advance the vision of Michigan as a destination for world class health care," says Sam R. Watson, executive director of the organization. "Building on the enormous success that Michigan hospitals have achieved — which already have the safest hospitals in the country — we were happy to launch Keystone: Surgery."



U of M doctor receives award

Congratulations to Darrell A. (Skip) Campbell, Jr., M.D., of the University of Michigan Hospitals and Health Centers. He received a 2007 John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Award in the individual achievement category from the National Quality Forum and The Joint Commission.

Dr. Campbell is being recognized for advancing quality improvement initiatives at the national, regional and local levels. He led the expansion of the National Surgical Quality Improvement Program, then used that experience to design and develop the Michigan Surgical Quality Collaborative.

The MSQC is today a partnership involving 34 Michigan hospitals, the American College of Surgeons and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan.

As chief of staff at the University of Michigan Health System, Dr. Campbell has implemented multiple patient safety and quality improvement initiatives. These include a hospital-wide rapid response team, regular patient safety rounds, establishment of a full-disclosure policy for medical errors, provision for annual patient safety training for all employees and a patient safety certification program for house officers.

Coalition plans to offer TeamSTEPPS training

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality offers TeamSTEPPS training and resources to Michigan health care organizations.

TeamSTEPPS (Team Strategies & Tools to Enhancing Performance and Patient Safety) is an evidence-based



curriculum and toolkit for teamwork development aimed at optimizing performance among teams of health care professionals, enabling them to respond quickly and effectively to whatever situations arise.

The TeamSTEPPS initiative was developed by the Department of Defense Patient Safety Program in collaboration with the AHRQ. It is rooted in more than three decades of research in high-stress, high-risk industries, such as military aviation. The training is delivered to organizations in a customizable course, which uses a train-the-trainer model. Those who receive training can then train and coach staff in targeted work units.

MH&SC's 2007 conference featured David Baker, Ph.D., who spoke about TeamSTEPPS. You can see his presentation at mihealthandsafety.org. Click on *Patient Safety Conference* on the left menu, scroll down, then click on *TeamSTEPPS: Team Strategies & Tools to Enhance Performance and Patient Safety – Baker*.

If you're interested in learning more about TeamSTEPPS, please visit its Web site at ahrq.gov/qual/teamstepps.

Conference sponsorship opportunities available

The Michigan Health and Safety Coalition is accepting sponsors for its 2008 Annual Patient Safety Conference.

The conference gives businesses a unique opportunity to showcase products and services designed to improve the quality of patient safety. Attendees include more than 200 health care leaders representing health plans, hospitals, boards, physicians, nurses, pharmacists, employer groups and consumers.

Three sponsor levels are available: Platinum for \$1,000, Gold for \$800 and Silver for \$600. Opportunities are also available to sponsor a lunch or a break.

If you're interested in being a sponsor for the 2008 Annual Patient Safety Conference, call Mary Ann Ingraham at 248-448-8231 or download a sponsorship kit directly from our Web site at mihealthandsafety.org. To receive full recognition at the conference, please send in your sponsorship by Feb. 22, 2008.

MORE OB booth at the
2007 Annual Patient
Safety Conference. >



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Michigan Health and Safety Coalition members

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Michigan Health & Hospital Association

Michigan Nurses Association

Michigan Osteopathic Association

Michigan Pharmacists Association

Michigan State Medical Society

MPRO, Michigan's Healthcare Quality Improvement Organization

Adverse drug events increase between 1998 and 2005

A recent analysis of adverse drug events reported to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration shows that these reports more than doubled between 1998 and 2005. Deaths associated with these events also more than doubled.

Data shows that during this time period, 467,809 serious adverse events were reported. The annual number of reports increased from 34,966 in 1998 to 89,842 in 2005. Fatal adverse drug events increased from 5,519 to 15,107 during the same time period.

The FDA defines a serious adverse drug event as one that results in death, a birth defect, disability, hospitalization, or was life-threatening or required intervention to prevent harm.

The report was authored by Thomas J. Moore, A.D., of the Institute for Safe Medication Practices in Huntingdon Valley, Penn., and colleagues. It was featured in the Sept. 10, 2007 issue of Archives of Internal Medicine, a JAMA/Archives journal.

“These data show a marked increase in reported deaths and serious injuries associated with drug therapy over the study period,” the report’s authors note. “The results highlight the importance of this public health problem and illustrate the need for improved systems to manage the risks of prescription drugs.”

SURVEY continued from Page 1

By discontinuing the annual survey, MH&SC intends to more effectively use staff resources, reduce the duplication of work for providers and implement collaborative initiatives that are based on gaps in performance identified through multiple patient safety performance data. One data source being analyzed is MH&SC hospital survey data from 2003 to 2006. There is a wealth of hospital performance information in this database that will help focus safety initiatives. MH&SC will also secure a data license from The Leapfrog Group to obtain and use its hospital safety data for improvement purposes in Michigan.

MH&SC’s new direction in 2007 and beyond will be an opportunity to continue Michigan’s leadership in improving patient safety.