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Contact Us

Ann McGowan, RN, MSN
Executive Director
Nebraska Coalition for Patient Safety
984420 Nebraska Medical Center
Omaha, NE 68198-4420
Phone: 402-559-8421
Cell: 308-999-3160
E-mail: ann.mcgowan@unmc.edu

To learn more about patient safety initiatives of the five founding NCPS organizations, visit:

- www.nebraskapa.org
- www.nhanet.org
- www.nebmed.org
- www.nursingworld.org/emas/ne
- www.npharm.org

Nebraska Coalition for Patient Safety

Improving the safety and quality of health care delivery in Nebraska





Overview

In 2005, the Nebraska state Legislature passed the Patient Safety Improvement Act. The purpose of the Act is to create a learning environment for health care providers and to foster a culture of quality. The Act calls for the formation of a patient safety organization, the Nebraska Coalition for Patient Safety (NCPS). The ultimate goal is to work together, learning from each other to consistently deliver high quality health care.

The Patient Safety Improvement Act does this by establishing a reporting structure for adverse health events and/or “near misses,” protecting the information reported to it from discovery, and sharing information designed to improve health care delivery systems and reduce the incidence of adverse health events. The Nebraska Coalition for Patient Safety is comprised of organizations that are committed to achieving excellence in health care delivery.

The founding organizations of the Nebraska Coalition for Patient Safety include the Nebraska Academy of Physician Assistants, the Nebraska Hospital Association, the Nebraska Medical Association, the Nebraska Nurses Association, and the Nebraska Pharmacists Association.

Mission of the Coalition

The Nebraska Coalition for Patient Safety (NCPS) was formed in 2006. Its purpose is to:

- Encourage a culture of safety and quality by providing for legal protection of information reported to it for the purposes of quality improvement and patient safety
- Provide for the reporting of aggregate information about occurrences
- Provide for the reporting and sharing of information designed to improve health care delivery systems
- Reduce the incidence of adverse health events and near misses

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Responsibilities

The NCPS is responsible for analyzing reported patient safety events and ensuring compliance with the Patient Safety Improvement Act. In October of 2009, the Coalition received recognition of becoming a federally designated Patient Safety Organization (PSO).

What Does This Mean?

The final rule delivered by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Office for Civil Rights, Department of Health and Human Services, establishes a framework by which hospitals, doctors and other health care providers may voluntarily report information to PSOs on a privileged and confidential basis, for the aggregation and analysis of patient safety events. The Act is voluntary and does not provide for federal funding of PSOs.

Federal Register; part III Department of Health and Human Services; 42 CFR Part 3; Patient Safety and Quality Improvement; Final Rule, 11/21/2008; 70732

The Nebraska Coalition for Patient Safety:

- Analyzes reported patient safety events
- Ensures compliance with the Patient Safety Improvement Act
- Shares critical alerts and notifications from national quality and safety organizations
- Communicates and promotes evidence-based best practices
- Establishes benchmark goals for statewide quality initiatives
- Partners with other Nebraska patient safety and quality organizations to avoid duplication of efforts
- Conducts educational seminars



To learn more about the Nebraska Coalition for Patient Safety, visit www.nepatientsafety.org.