

## 2005 Behavioral Health Care National Patient Safety Goals

**Note:** New Goals and Requirements are indicated in **bold**.

Goal: Improve the accuracy of client identification.

- Use at least two client identifiers (neither to be the room number) whenever administering medications or blood products; taking blood samples **and other specimens for clinical testing, or providing any other procedures.**

Goal: Improve the effectiveness of communication among caregivers.

- For verbal or telephone orders or for telephonic reporting of critical test results, verify the complete order or test result by having the person receiving the order or test result "read-back" the complete order or test result.
- Standardize a list of abbreviations, acronyms and symbols that are not to be used throughout the organization.
- **Measure, assess and, if appropriate, take action to improve the timeliness of reporting, and the timeliness of receipt by the responsible licensed caregiver, of critical test results and values.**

Goal: Improve the safety of using medications.

- Standardize and limit the number of drug concentrations available in the organization.
- **Identify and, at a minimum, annually review a list of look-alike/sound-alike drugs used in the organization, and take action to prevent errors involving the interchange of these drugs.**

Goal: Improve the safety of using infusion pumps.

- Ensure free-flow protection on all general-use intravenous infusion pumps used in the organization.

Goal: Reduce the risk of health care-associated infections.

- Comply with current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) hand hygiene guidelines when providing services to a high-risk population, or administering physical care.
- Manage as sentinel events all identified cases of unanticipated death or major permanent loss of function associated with a health care-associated infection.

**Goal: Accurately and completely reconcile medications across the continuum of care.**

- **During 2005, for full implementation by January 2006, develop a process for obtaining and documenting a complete list of the client's current medications upon the client's entry to the organization and with the involvement of the client. This process includes a comparison of the medications the organization provides to those on the list.**
- **A complete list of the client's medications is communicated to the next provider of service when it refers or transfers a client to another setting, service, practitioner or level of care within or outside the organization.**