Second Physician Leader Forum is a success

A report from Ana Pujols McKee, M.D., Executive Vice President and Chief Medical Officer

The Joint Commission is committed to supporting and collaborating with physician leaders in their work at our accredited organizations. On November 21, we held our second Physician Leader Forum. Approximately 40 Chief Medical Officers from organizations around the country spent the day at The Joint Commission learning about our work and the work of the Center for Transforming Healthcare in the areas of high reliability and patient safety. Attendees voiced their concerns about the challenges they face daily in patient safety and quality improvement. Moving forward, we are committed to an annual session on topics that are relevant and vital to physician leaders.

See video testimonials from last year’s Physician Leader Forum.

You're invited! 2014 Patient Safety, Science & Technology Summit

The 2014 Patient Safety, Science & Technology Summit will unite committed healthcare leaders with actionable steps to bring real change to their organizations. The goal: to help eliminate the many preventable deaths in U.S. hospitals by 2020. The summit focuses on three areas - improving the effectiveness of hand-off communications, reducing healthcare-acquired infections, and creating a culture of safety. Co-convened by the Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare and the Patient Safety Movement Foundation, the summit will be held January 11-13, 2014, at the Ritz-Carlton, Laguna Niguel, Dana Point, Calif. Request an invitation.

New CLABSI toolkit

The toolkit, a companion piece to a 2012 monograph with the same title, is designed for healthcare personnel who insert and care

Joint Commission Journal article

"Editorial: Embedding systems-level quality improvement for dissemination and sustainability across many practices and conditions" by Wilson D. Pace, M.D., and Elizabeth W. Staton, MSTC.
for intravascular catheters and who are responsible for the surveillance, prevention and control of infections in all healthcare settings.

New AAMI paper on improving safety in cardiac monitoring

The AAMI Foundation released its latest Safety Innovation series paper, "Simple Solutions for Improving Patient Safety in Cardiac Monitoring - Eight Critical Elements to Monitor Alarm Competency," from the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center; Presbyterian Hospital, Pittsburgh, Pa. The paper describes the UPMC pilot projects that decreased alarm ring time, improved staff response to cardiac monitor alarm signals, and decreased alarm noise within hospital units with a high volume of monitoring equipment.

New standards FAQ

Endotracheal tubes: How to clean, disinfect and store this device

See the new blog posts

Our children's health depends on appropriate imaging practices and shared decisions - By Daniel J. Castillo, M.D., M.B.A., Medical Director, The Joint Commission.

Lead the way to a safe, efficient practice environment - CMO Ana McKee, M.D., says highly performing environments evolve because leadership commits to making safety and quality a priority.

Podcast: URFOs

CMO Ana McKee, M.D., talks about why unintended retained foreign objects after surgery continue to be a problem and what to do about it. This podcast is a follow-up to the recently published Sentinel Event Alert on the topic.

New Speak Up™ materials

In November, The Joint Commission released two new Speak Up™ materials: a brochure, "What You Should Know about Memory Problems and Dementia," and a video, "Ask Your Advocate to Speak Up." The brochure includes typical memory problems with aging and when to become concerned; questions you or your advocate should ask a doctor; and where to find more information. The video outlines how an advocate works with the patient and health care professionals as part of a team.

News links

Preventing treatment delays for improved outcomes | AMN Healthcare

Peer intervention program reduces patient complaints | MD.com

3 strategies for quality improvement from Joint Commission CEO Dr. Mark Chassin | Becker's Clinical Quality & Infection Control

Nearly 800 surgical tools left in patients since 2005: Report | CBS News
Questions about Standards?

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