

Patient Safety Focus

TOP 10 ISSUES FOR 2022



The Midwest Alliance for Patient Safety developed *Patient Safety Focus: Top 10 Issues for 2022*, a white paper that offers extensive resources for members. The top issues emerged from over 71,000 submitted events, expert input, literature review and shared learnings.



Health Equity

1

Black, Latinx, Asian and other historically marginalized communities experienced COVID-19 case and death rates 24%-110% higher than white communities.

Staffing Shortages

2

The pandemic exponentially magnified the impact of already-existing staffing shortages on healthcare professionals, especially frontline staff.

Opioid Use Disorder

3

The sharp rise in opioid overdose deaths during COVID-19 resulted from isolation, economic instability and limited access to substance use treatment clinics.

Patient/Family Engagement

4

Restricting families from healthcare facilities during COVID-19 led to unintended risks to patient safety and distress for caregivers and family members.

Postpartum Transitions

5

The fourth trimester of pregnancy poses risk, especially for women with cardiovascular disease, severe preeclampsia, diabetes and postpartum hemorrhage.

Workplace Violence

6

Incidents of serious workplace violence are four times more likely in healthcare, with hospital emergency department staff most at risk.

Patient Falls

7

One million people fall in hospitals every year, a significant patient safety concern exacerbated by the pandemic that can result in patient injury.



QI Capacity

8

The pandemic caused a major reshuffling of priorities among healthcare providers, even those with strong quality improvement (QI) efforts.

Sepsis-Related Mortality

9

Sepsis remains the top cause of inpatient deaths across the U.S., despite recommended improvements, claiming 270,000 adult lives every year.

Hospital-Acquired Infections

10

Pandemic challenges of increased patient caseload and staffing shortages hindered the implementation and effectiveness of infection prevention practices.

Join MAPS PSO in addressing these key patient safety issues

Founded in 2010, the Midwest Alliance for Patient Safety (MAPS) is a federally certified Patient Safety Organization (PSO) and a wholly owned, non-profit subsidiary of the Illinois Health and Hospital Association. MAPS members benefit from federal protections, confidential data submission and our supportive PSO community.

The annual white paper and all MAPS services are part of membership.

Together, we can enhance patient safety. Become a member.

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