

Patient Safety Focus

TOP 10 ISSUES FOR 2019

The Midwest Alliance for Patient Safety developed *Patient Safety Focus: Top 10 Issues for 2019*, a white paper that offers extensive resources for members. The top issues emerged from over 112,000 submitted events, expert input, literature review and shared learnings.



1 DIAGNOSTIC ERRORS

Diagnostic error is a pervasive healthcare concern and results in the most serious patient harms, frequently related to vascular events, infections and cancers.

2 OPIOIDS

More than 130 Americans die from opioid overdoses every day. Preventing, stabilizing and treating opioid use disorder should be a focus for healthcare organizations.



3 Rx ERRORS

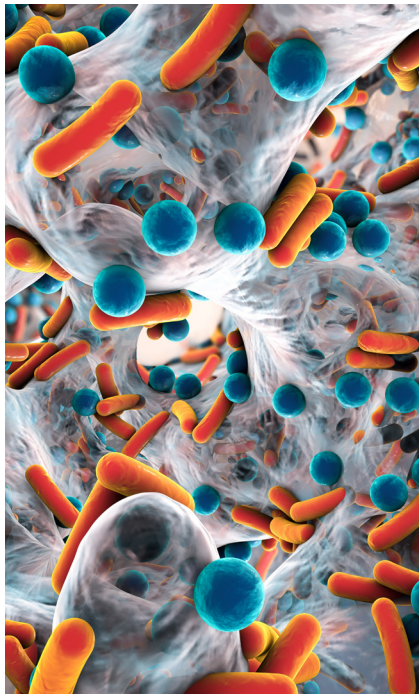
Medication errors are preventable events. Dispensing, poor communication among providers and job-related stress are contributing factors for errors.

4 LEADERSHIP

Leadership engagement in patient safety is critical. Leaders should establish clear channels of communication to demonstrate commitment to working with staff.

5 FALLS

Up to 1 million adults aged 65 years and older experience a fall every year, which can be serious and costly. Partnering with patients and community organizations can help reduce falls.



6 HIT

Inoperability is the greatest concern in health information technology (HIT) today. HIT strategies must focus on improving care and patients' experience interacting with staff.



7 SEPSIS

Sepsis can have significant consequences for patients, most gravely, death. Prompt screening and diagnosis are critical factors in better health outcomes and reduced readmissions.

9 BURNOUT

Fatigued or overworked healthcare professionals are more prone to error and less likely to effectively execute patient safety measures. It is important to prioritize ways to reduce staff burnout.

8 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Failure to meet the needs of behavioral health patients can result in patient harm. Providers should perform comprehensive patient assessments to protect patients from self-harm.

10 HANDOFFS

Patients are at risk when handoffs are not performed or improperly performed. Evidence-based patient safety tools can improve communication and reduce missed handoffs.

Join MAPS PSO in addressing these key patient safety issues

The Midwest Alliance for Patient Safety is a federally certified Patient Safety Organization and a wholly owned subsidiary of the Illinois Health and Hospital Association. MAPS members benefit from federal protections, confidential data submission and our supportive PSO community.

We offer numerous ways for you to get involved in our collaborative efforts and education.

CONTACT US: MAPSHELP@TEAM-IHA.ORG | 630.276.5657 | WWW.ALLIANCE4PTSAFETY.ORG