

HQIP IN PRINT

An Initiative of the Greater Cincinnati Health Council

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE HOSPITAL QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

A collaborative effort between local hospitals and business to improve quality of care

New 2009 Release of HQIP Public Data

As 2009 draws to a close, so does the anticipation for the newest release of the Hospital Quality Improvement Project (HQIP) public data. This annual comprehensive report, in which the 18 HQIP participating Greater Cincinnati area hospitals voluntarily release their most recent performance data, is set to become public in December 2009. This year promises to be even more exciting than years past, due to our area hospitals' continual improvement in performance as well as the addition of three new measures to the 2008 dataset.

New Measures for 2009

Surgical care is the first new measure added to the 2008 dataset and is aimed at improving surgical care and reducing the risk of wound infection after surgery. Its components will evaluate whether patients received necessary safety precautions and were provided the correct medicines at the correct time before, during and after surgery.

The second new measure is hospital readmission. This will monitor how often Medicare patients are readmitted to any hospital within 30 days of discharge from a previous hospital stay.



Patient satisfaction is the last new measure and will serve to represent the patient's perspective of hospital care. Measures for patient satisfaction were taken from HCAHPS (Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems), which is a national, standardized survey on patient satisfaction.

Continued Improvement in Performance

The new 2008 data shows marked improvement across the board in hospital process of care measures. Specifically, the Greater Cincinnati area outperformed the national and Ohio state averages for all four individual heart failure measures. In addition, Greater Cincinnati area hospitals' overall performance for heart attack, heart failure and pneumonia patients showed substantial improvements across the board in 2008.

"All of the HQIP participating hospitals should be commended for their continued commitment to quality," said Nancy M. Strassel, Health Council Senior Vice President. "By publicly providing their annual performance data, they take an important step toward improving the quality of care in their own facilities, as well as in all hospitals across the community. They also provide valuable information that can help consumers to have a more active role in their health outcomes," Strassel said.

For more information on this story, please contact Suzanne Kirby (skirby@gchc.org). To access the hospital performance data, please go to:

<http://www.gchchospitalquality.org/>

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A Round of Applause for the HQIP Communications Advisory Board

A well-deserved “thank you” goes out to the members of the HQIP Communications Advisory Board, whose annual participation in the Hospital Quality Improvement Project has helped tremendously with the continued development of the HQIP website communications and design.

“The commitment of the group to gather together and contribute their valuable insights and thoughtfulness adds volumes to the continual improvement of the quality of information we provide on the HQIP website and also leads to better consumer understanding and use,” stated Robert Graham, MD, Chair of the HQIP Communications Advisory Board and Professor of Family Medicine at the University of Cincinnati.

The Health Council sincerely thanks our volunteers as well as Dr. Graham for his leadership in chairing the communications team. Be sure to check out all of the exciting new additions to the HQIP website at <http://www.gchc-hospitalquality.org>

Upcoming Meetings

Joint Steering Committee
& Medical Directors
Wednesday, March 10, 2010
7:30-9:00am

Quality Council
Wednesday, March 17, 2010
7:30-9:00am

All meetings are to be held
at the **Health Council**,
unless otherwise noted.

The Key to Creating a Culture of Quality



On October 24, 2009, the HQIP Quality Council was pleased to have Leonard M. Randolph, Jr., MD, Senior Vice President and Divisional Chief Medical Officer for Mercy Health Partners, present his ideas on “The Key to Quality,” focusing primarily on the importance of leadership. Dr. Randolph walked the group through Mercy’s journey to better quality from 2002 to the present and highlighted the importance of certain key attributes to creating one’s own quality culture. These included continual enlightenment, insistence on visibility and equality, a quality business case, personal leadership, partnership with one’s CFO, and more. Though Dr. Randolph stressed the importance of good leadership for quality, he also noted that “Although leadership is a key to success on the Quality Journal, all of us are better than any one of us.”

For more information on this story or to request a copy of Dr. Randolph’s complete presentation, please contact Suzanne Kirby skirby@gchc.org

Joint Commission National Patients Safety Goals Revised for 2010

The Joint Commission has released the pre-publication version of their National Patient Safety Goals (NPSGs) for 2010, and new revisions have been made this year in an effort to put more emphasis on topics that are paramount to quality of care and patient safety.

New revisions aim to increase efficiency and improve clarity amongst certain Elements of Performance (EPs). Changes include the deletion of some previous requirements, as well as the change of some requirements now becoming standards. Hospitals should also be keenly aware that some changes to universal protocol are effective immediately. For example, please be aware surveyors will not evaluate for requirements that are no longer effective in the 2010 revisions during any remaining on-site surveys in 2009.

No new National Patient Safety Goals have been created for 2010, however, as of January 1, 2010, all organizations will be responsible for the full implementation of requirements related to health care-associated infections, which were established with the 2009 NPSGs.

To view the detailed 2010 National Patient Safety Goals, please go to: <http://www.jointcommission.org/PatientSafety/NationalPatientSafetyGoals>

HQIP Participating Hospitals

- ◆ Atrium Medical Center
- ◆ Brown County General Hospital
- ◆ The Christ Hospital
- ◆ CMH Regional Health System/Clinton Memorial Hospital
- ◆ Dearborn County Hospital
- ◆ Highland District Hospital
- ◆ Margaret Mary Community Hospital
- ◆ McCullough-Hyde Memorial Hospital
- ◆ Health Alliance—The University Hospital
- ◆ Health Alliance—Fort Hamilton Hospital
- ◆ Health Alliance—The Jewish Hospital
- ◆ MHP—Mercy Hospital Anderson
- ◆ MHP—Mercy Hospital Clermont
- ◆ MHP—Mercy Hospital Fairfield
- ◆ MHP—Mercy Hospital Mt. Airy
- ◆ MHP—Mercy Hospital Western Hills
- ◆ TriHealth –Bethesda North Hospital
- ◆ TriHealth –Good Samaritan Hospital