



Tennessee Center for Patient Safety Key Initiatives

Hospital Collaborative on Reducing Healthcare-Acquired Infections

In 2007, the Tennessee Hospital Association (THA) launched the Tennessee Center for Patient Safety (TCPS), which provides education, resources and other tools to assist hospitals in accelerating their performance on quality and patient safety initiatives. The association received a three-year grant from the Blue Cross-Blue Shield Tennessee Health Foundation to fund the center. This project is a collaboration between Tennessee hospitals, healthcare providers and professional organizations to reduce healthcare-acquired infections through the implementation of evidence-based strategies. Collaboration continues throughout Tennessee at regional networking meetings and biannual statewide conferences.

The team participation includes:

- 122 Hospitals enrolled as safety partners
- SCIP – 77 teams
- Central Lines – 64 teams
- MRSA – 67 teams

Specific aims of the collaborative include:

- Improve the culture of safety; the AHRQ survey is available free through the Tennessee Center for Patient Safety
- Reduce patient harm by significantly reducing or eliminating central line bloodstream infections
- Reduce Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* transmission
- Meet or exceed the national goal of a 25 percent reduction in surgical complications by implementing the Surgical Care Improvement Project (SCIP) measures
- Implement Comprehensive Unit-Based Safety Program (CUSP)

Key partners include the, Association of Professionals in Infection Control, Tennessee Association for Healthcare Quality, Tennessee Department of Health and QSource.

Tennessee Nursing Partners Collaborative

The nursing partners collaborative, under the leadership of the Tennessee Organization of Nurse Executives (TONE), is focused on the linkages between work environment and patient safety and quality outcomes. The project introduces strategies to build a culture of safety and teamwork, as well as share best practices for workforce retention.

The collaborative has identified four areas for implementation of pilot projects:

- Building a culture of safety and teamwork
- Staffing to meet individual patient needs
- Sharing hospital performance
- Addressing the workforce shortage

