



PATIENT SAFETY STEERING COMMITTEE

Charter

Mission

Supporting and engaging Arizona consumers, hospitals and healthcare organizations in patient safety efforts to create a safety culture that improves patient outcomes and health care systems, by:

- increasing awareness of patient safety issues;
- providing education regarding patient safety issues;
- developing and providing tools for providers and consumers regarding patient safety issues;
- fostering transparent systems that promote patient care improvement and education; and
- thinking, speaking and functioning with one voice and language to foster a consistent and clear message on patient safety initiatives.

Vision

To partner and work collaboratively with consumers, industry and community to make Arizona the safest state in the United States to receive healthcare.

We will achieve this vision by educating the community and advocating in concert with other patient safety-minded organizations regarding patient safety initiatives, practices and outcomes.

We Value the Concepts of:

- collaborating;
- sharing information and listening;
- celebrating success;
- being proactive and visible;
- using lessons learned and reflective learning to facilitate improvement and growth; and
- involving patients and family in our deliberations and products.

Principles

We Will:

- use evidence based patient safety activities;
- remain patient /provider/community centered;
- focus on improving outcomes;
- share information, and ideas with each other to improve patient safety i.e. healthcare education (incorporate patient safety into healthcare curriculum as standard);
- develop and disseminate best practices and evidence based information across Arizona where applicable;
- share responsibility / accountability;
- incorporate patient safety into healthcare curriculum as a standard and industry norm; and
- work with a sense of urgency;
- use system thinking.

Activities/Scope of Work

Strategic

- establish priorities for state-wide patient safety initiatives and standardization as it applies and make recommendations to Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association (AzHHA) members;
- promoting synergy with other organizations and their patient safety initiatives;
- ensure healthcare organizations' understanding of patient safety initiatives
- communicate PSSC recommendations for actions to patient safety leaders and their organizations;
- provide leadership support, education and testimony for the AzHHA Public Affairs department and other organizations on state and federal patient safety initiatives and legislation;
- provide direction, feedback and recommended educational offerings on the patient safety;
- communicate best practices;
- Increase CEO engagement and hospital Board involvement in patient safety by providing information that demonstrates a sound business case for the highest quality and safest care.

Collaboration

- pursue collaborative relationships with other interested organizations and individuals to enhance current patient safety initiatives;
- communicate and promote key initiatives to Arizona citizens;

- recognize and celebrate achievements and improvements of patient safety by AzHHA members;

Financial

- identify grant opportunities to support the initiatives;

Operations

- the Patient Safety Steering Committee will consist of no more than 20 members;
- appointment of members shall be subject to approval by the AzHHA Board of Directors;
- members of the Patient Safety Steering Committee are appointed for an initial two year term and may be reappointed for additional two year terms. Terms will be staggered to provide a seamless transition;
- to the extent possible, members of the Steering Committee will have the following experience or background:
 - institutional healthcare systems, facilities or service entities; and
 - healthcare consumers, physician, nurses and other healthcare professionals who have expressed interest in advocating the statewide patient safety agenda.
- The Patient Safety Steering Committee shall recommend a chair, and other officers as the Patient Safety Steering Committee deems appropriate.

Duties: Strategy; Planning; Fiduciary

Patient Safety Steering Committee members serve as expert resources in guiding patient safety projects and activities, and making recommendations to the AzHHA Board of Directors.

Members are expected to bring current information from their constituent group, assist in developing Committee priorities and support the implementation of adopted initiatives. In addition to attending meetings, members may be called upon to provide leadership and assist with other committees, special projects, studies, events and other related activities..

Expected Outcomes

- The committee will serve as a catalyst for improving patient safety practices and acts with a sense of urgency;
- Creates tools and provides education to support AZ hospitals in their patient safety work.

Communication of Work

- AzHHA Board of Directors;
- Arizona Partners Implementing Patient Safety (APIPS);

- Arizona Organization of Nurse Executives (AzONE); and
- Stakeholders as identified.

Measures of Success for the Patient Safety Steering Committee *

Measurable changes that positively impact patient safety outcomes statewide by:

- identifying key initiatives for state-wide activity.
- increasing awareness;
- providing education;
- sharing information;
- using evidence-based patient safety activities and dissemination of best practices;
- pursuing collaborative relationships for strategic alliance;
- communicating to Arizona citizens regarding patient safety; and
- identifying funding opportunities;

** For annual use by Patient Safety Steering Committee to self-evaluate effectiveness.*

Support Needed

Funding as needed for communications, facilitators, education, retreats, guest speakers, lending library maintenance, and staff support at meetings.

Originated May 2005 Fourth revision Nov 2008

Originally approved by the Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association Board of Directors November 3, 2005