Amerinet QualityTouch Newsletter
2009 – 2010 Index

Instructions
Listed below are the articles from the 2009 and 2010 editions of the Amerinet QualityTouch Newsletter. Click on the month/year to open that edition as a PDF.

To find a particular topic in this index Press CTRL + f. A box will appear to conduct a key word search.

2009 Newsletters

March 2009
Patient Safety Infrastructure
- Regarding patient safety, an organization’s ability to develop a true culture of safety depends on what the organization permits to occur
- Organization “Red Rules

Clinical Challenges
- Infection Control - Hand washing

Regulatory Compliance
- CMS Never Events
- The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (DRA) requires CMS to select at least two hospital-acquired conditions for which hospitals would not be paid higher Medicare reimbursement
- Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008 (MIPPA) was enacted by Congress on July 15, 2008, requiring the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a plan to transition to a value-based purchasing program for Medicare payment for physician and other professional services

May 2009
Patient Safety Infrastructure
- Press Ganey Pulse Report 2009: Staff Perspectives on American Healthcare
- The Role of Hospital Boards Improving Quality
- Twelve Areas of Composites of Patient Safety Culture (AHRQ)

Clinical Challenges
- Hospital-Acquired Infections (HAIs)
- Patient Bath Basins: Potential Source of Infection?
- Ventilator Associated Pneumonia (VAP)
- Medication Safety - Five Steps to Prevent Deadly IV Medication Errors

Clinical Repository/ Benchmarking Guidelines
- Hospital Compare Web Site
- Five Patient Safety Measures
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Proposes Less Regulation of Hazardous Pharma Waste
- The Joint Commission (TJC) Leadership Standards

Regulatory Compliance
- Surgical Care Improvement Project (SCIP)

Safety (Disaster Preparedness)/ Environmental Issues (Green Initiatives)
- How are you meeting TJC requirement to meld response plans with local entities such as police and fire departments?

June 2009
Patient Safety Infrastructure
- “Collective” Culture of Hospitals exhibit the following characteristics
- Board of Directors (BOD) Dashboard
- Pulse Report 2009 - Press Ganey

Clinical Challenges
- Patients’ Bath Basins: A Potential Source of Infection?

June 2009
Clinical Repository/Benchmarking Guidelines

Regulatory Compliance
- American Recovery Act
- Medicare Bill with e-Prescribing Incentives Passed by Congress
- Top Cited OSHA standards at Medical and Surgical Hospitals

Process Improvement Methods
- Leapfrog Group Pillars of Quality

Safety/Disaster Preparedness
- Ways to prevent patient elopements

Key Industry Issues
- GPOs Save Money

July 2009
Patient Safety Infrastructure
- Major U.S. healthcare groups and healthcare reform
- How do you report sentinel events to your Board of Directors?
Clinical Challenges
- Improving Transition to Reduce Readmissions
- Importance of Oral Care in the Prevention of Ventilator Associated Pneumonia (VAP)
- Common Sense Cleaning: The rid guide for hospital cleaning professionals

Clinical Repository/Benchmarking Guidelines
- Prevention of Surgical Site Infections—Change Gloves
- Prevention of Central Line Infection through Chlorhexidine Gluconate (CHG)

Regulatory Compliance
- Ways to Increase Core Measures Compliance
- Safe Product Use to Stay in Regulatory Compliance
- The Joint Commission Recent Changes
- DNV Healthcare Inc. (DNVHC) was granted deem status

Process Improvement Methods
- The Toyota (Lean) Production system philosophies

Safety/Disaster Preparedness
- “Code Silver” - Steps to take in the Event of a Violent Attack

September 2009
Patient Safety Infrastructure
- The Importance of Organizational Transparency
- Quality Focus Reduces Deaths in U.S. Hospitals
- Cultural Shift Drives Better Reporting
- Patient Safety Organizations (PSOs)

Clinical Challenges
- Fall Prevention
- Central Venous Catheter-Related Bloodstream Infections
- “Alternative” Medicine is Mainstream

Clinical Repository/Benchmarking Guidelines
- Michigan Keystone ICU Project
- The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
- CDC Measures to Combat Surgical Site Infections

Regulatory Compliance
- 2008 challenges were reported in Joint Commission Perspectives in July 2009 - Life Safety, Verbal Orders, NPSG 2C, Medication Safety, Information Management, Fire Safety, NPSG 3D, HR 1.20, UP 1C, NPSG 8A
- Joint Commission Tailors Speak Up Program to Prevent Pediatric Errors
- Healthcare Reform
- CMS Never Events to the Outpatient Setting?
- The “Red Flags” Rule in Healthcare
Process Improvement Methods
- Toyota Lean

Safety/Disaster Preparedness
- Small Business Guide for Ethylene Oxide (EtO)

Key Industry Issues
- What technologies are on the minds of the C-Suite Today?

November 2009
Patient Safety Infrastructure
- Patient Safety Organizations (PSOs)
- Hospitals in Pursuit of Excellence
- Mission, Vision and Value Statements

Clinical Challenges
- H1N1 - CDC doesn’t budge on N95 respirator recommendation
- Patient Safety in Physician Offices
- Medication Safety: A Complex Puzzle
- MRSA Survivors say screening is key
- Preventing the spread of MRSA
- Can a Cranberry Concentrate Complex Liquid Combined with Increased Hydration Protect Elderly Residents from Urinary Tract Infections (UTIs)?

Clinical Repository/Benchmarking Guidelines
- Fall Rates
- Hand Washing Compliance
- Fresh approaches stem MRSA tide
- Infection Prevention Market to reach $23.5 billion in 2013

Regulatory Compliance
- Sentinel Event #43: Effective Leadership Critical to Preventing Medical Errors
- 2010 National Patient Safety Goals
- 2009 Compliance Challenges
- Complaints and grievances
- Joint Commission Survey Findings - Amerinet Member
- TJC Scoring Changes
- Steam Sterilization
- Four more CMS quality measures to report
- Recovery Audit Contractor (RAC)
- Preventable Readmissions

Process Improvement Methods
- Lean Management
- Lean Management & Best Practices
Safety/Disaster Preparedness
  • Hazard Vulnerability Analysis (HVA)

Key Industry Issues
  • Scope Processing Error Incidents

2010 Newsletters

January 2010
Member/Supplier Feature
  • Sage Products: Simple Interventions, Extraordinary Outcomes

Patient Safety Infrastructure
  • Building Will
  • Seven Mistakes that Lower Patient Satisfaction Scores

Clinical Challenges
  • Medication Safety, Seven Routine Steps
  • Top 10 DRGs in the United States
  • ED Core Measures
  • ISMP Quarterly Watch
  • Inattentional Blindness

Regulatory Compliance
  • CMS Recovery Audit Contractor (RAC) Initiative
  • Statement of Condition (SOC)
  • Deficiencies and the Plan for Improvement (PFI) List
  • Interim Life Safety Measures (ILSM)
  • 2010 National Patient Safety Goals (NPSGs)
  • Universal Protocol EP2
  • Wrong Person, Wrong Site And Wrong Procedure Surgeries
  • TJC Periodic Performance Review (PPR) Makeover
  • Recovery Audit Contractors (RAC) Initial Complex Target DRGs

Practice Repository/Sharing/Benchmarking
  • Baylor Medical Center Revolutionary Approach to Treating Heart Failure Patients

Process Improvement Methods
  • Leapfrog
  • Six Sigma

Safety/Disaster Preparedness
  • Evacuation Maps
  • Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA)

Key Industry Issues
• Spend Management Technology: The Quickest Way to Cut Healthcare Costs?

March 2010
Member/Supplier Feature
• Chabert Medical Center

Patient Safety Infrastructure
• Is Sorry the Hardest Word in Healthcare?
• Ground Safety as the Organizational Core Value
• Build and Reinforce Accountability
• Suggestions for the Board of Directors
• Formal Change Management Process
• The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) 10 Updated Patient Safety Tips for Hospitals
• Note to the C-Suite: Communicating Quality is More Important than Ever
• Hospital Strategies for Effective Performance Management
• Survey: Half of Nonprofit Hospital Boards Don’t Value Clinical Quality as Top Concern
• The Nurses’ Role in Communication and Patient Safety

Clinical Challenges
• CT Problems Magnified
• Common Sense Infection-Control Strategies Resulting in Low Infection Rates
• A New Language for Healthcare - ICD-10

Regulatory Compliance
• National Integrated Accreditation for Healthcare Organizations (NIAHO)
• The Joint Commission (TJC) Updates its Flash Sterilization Position: Are You Prepared?
• MedWatchPlus
• Lessons from Recovery Audit Contractor (RAC) Surveys
• How to Staff for RACs
• 2010 Healthcare Building Code Guidelines to Have MRI Safety Requirement
• Recent Joint Commission Survey - Pennsylvania Tertiary Hospital

Practice Repository/Sharing/Benchmarking
• A 36-Hospital Time and Motion Study: How Do Medical-Surgical Nurses Spend Their Time?
• Could a Federal Patient Safety Agency Offer a Solution to the Rising Number of Errors?
• Never Events Policy May Save Less Than Expected

Key Industry Issues
• Where Can $700 Billion In Waste Be Cut Annually from the U.S. Healthcare System?
• Suppliers Update- Products Contributing to Patient Safety

April 2010
Amerinet Quality and Patient Safety Welcomes New Team Member
Member/Supplier Feature
  • Mölnlycke Health Care

Patient Safety Infrastructure
  • Let’s Build a Strong Foundation!!
  • Textbook Revision — Patient Safety Must Start in Classroom: Report
  • Do You Hold Staff Accountable for Safety?
  • Consider Human Factors Engineering when Designing your Patient Safety Projects
  • HHS Panel Considers EHR Risks as Reports Detail Injuries, Deaths

Clinical Challenges
  • A Powerful Partnership
  • Preventing Wrong-Site Surgery - Better OR Teamwork Needed to Eliminate Persistent Problem
  • Quality Reporting May Prove Challenging Under Meaningful Use
  • Radiation Gets Extreme Close-up
  • ERs Face a New Urgency

Regulatory Compliance
  • A New Definition... National Quality Forum (NQF) wants to take “never” out of “never events”
  • NSF International Receives Accreditation for Food Safety Management Systems Registration
  • The Joint Commission (TJC) Revises Medical Staff Standard (MS.01.01.01)
  • Suicide Risk Assessment Important Part of Survey and Patient Safety
  • Put Performance Criteria into your Contracts or Expose Leaders to RFIs
  • Get Emergency Response Letters in Order - Surveyors may Want to Check Yours
  • TJC Updates Medication Label Requirements
  • TJC Promises New Medication Reconciliation Goal by January 2011
  • Data to Consider for Ongoing Professional Practice Evaluation (OPPE)

Practice Repository/Sharing/ Benchmarking
  • ‘Meaningful Use’ at last – Regulations Aim to Boost Quality, Safety and Efficiency

Process Improvement Methods
  • Stewards of the Suite: How OR Nurses are Saving Hospitals Money
  • The Strategic Importance of Data

Safety/Disaster Preparedness
  • A Call to Go Green in Healthcare by Reprocessing Medical Equipment

Key Industry Issues
  • Survey: Breaches, ID Theft Increase
  • FDA OKs Wearable Monitor
  • Integrating Success

May 2010
Member/Supplier Feature
  • Fairfield Medical Center
Patient Safety Infrastructure
- Finding the Balance Between Quality and Cost
- Value vs. Volume: Can We Pay for Quality?
- Plotting a Flight Plan for Quality, Patient Safety
- Risk Managers List 10 Concerns for 2010
- Transformation of Healthcare at the Front Line
- Getting Your Leaders on Board
- Responding to Patient Safety Incidents: The “Seven Pillars”

Clinical Challenges
- 3M Announces New Antiseptic for Preoperative Use
- Hospitals Can Slow Heart Patients’ Rate of Return
- Copper Clinical Trails
- New Normothermia Measures Heat up Patient-Temperature Management
- 11 Ways to cut pharmaceutical waste
- IV-Warmer Errors are RFI Magnets
- Hospital Fined for Violating Respiratory Guidelines
- Chemical Burn Injury Secondary to Intraoperative Transesophageal Echocardiography
- APIC Response to Consumer Reports Article on Bloodstream Infections

Regulatory Compliance
- Targeted vs. Blanket Surveillance
- DNV Healthcare Case Study: Benefits Include Yearly, Collegial Visits
- Joint Commission Environment of Care Issue
- After 18 Months, the Joint Commission (TJC) Unveils the Latest Medical Staff Bylaws Standard

Practice Repository/Sharing/Benchmarking
- Stroke Awareness
- Process Improvement Methods
- Ten Innovations that will Transform Medicine

Safety/Disaster Preparedness
- Minnesota Hospital Builds New Addition with Safety in Mind
- Construction and Fire Alarms: Contact Fire Department, Determine Announcements

Key Industry Issues
- Amerinet Members Recognized for Excellence in Quality Care

June 2010
Patient Safety Infrastructure
- Is the Current Recession Compromising Hospital Quality?
- 4 Tips for Creating an Extraordinary Patient Experience to Increase Referrals and Profitability
- Higher Hospital Margins Distinguished by Higher Patient Satisfaction
- Legacy Health “Leadership Leverage” to Achieve Successful Patient Outcomes regarding Healthcare-Acquired Infections (HAIs)
- Do Your Nurses Speak Finance?
Leadership Skills: 7 Ways to Foster Positive Change

Clinical Challenges
- Academic Hospitals Team Up to Stop Catheter-Related Blood Stream Infections (CRBSIs)
- MRSA Incidence Rate Rises in Children
- New Way Bacterium Spreads in Hospital

Regulatory Compliance
- Top 10 Compliance Problems for Hospitals Surveyed in 2009
- CMS Announces Separate Waiting Room Waiver
- Healthcare Reform - Implementing the Reform Law: The Challenge Begins
- Rating Agencies: Reform will be a Net Negative for Not-for-Profits: Moody’s
- Health Reform: Prospering in a Post-Reform World
- ZPICs, RACs and MICs: Who’s Looking at Your Claims?
- Achieving Operational Efficiencies Using a DRG-based Tracer Approach
- Put Performance Criteria into Your Contracts, or Expose Leaders to RFIs
- New Goal Gives Hospitals More Latitude
- Improving Margins through a Patient Access Initiative
- The Joint Commission Frequently Asked Questions posted for June 2010

Practice Repository/Sharing/Benchmarking
- Patient Safety Improvement Moving Slowly
- High Readmission Rates for Medicaid Patients

Process Improvement Methods
- Quint Studer: Using HCAHPS to Drive Patient Safety
- HHS Seeks Patient Feedback About HIT

Safety/Disaster Preparedness
- Lessons Learned from a Personal Experience with Hurricane Katrina

Legislative Issues
- Senate Gives Doc Fix Six Month Reprieve, But 21% Cuts Go into Effect Today
- How Quality Will Pay for Hospitals Under New Reform Measures

Key Industry Issues
- FDA Shares Possible Transparency Rules

July 2010
Member/Supplier Feature
- Smith & Nephew

Patient Safety Infrastructure
- Choosing Quality

Clinical Challenges
- Survey: Central Line Infections Still a Big Problem
• Relationship Between Early Physician Follow-up and 30 Day Readmission Among Medicare Beneficiaries Hospitalized for Heart Failure

Regulatory Compliance
• HHS Issues Meaningful Use Regs
• Conducting an Assessment of Hospital Quality Measures Reporting
• The Joint Commission, Frequently Asked Questions - July 2010

Practice Repository/Sharing/Benchmarking
• Hospital Compare Adds Data on Emergency, Outpatient Care

Process Improvement Methods
• A Focus on Family

Safety/Disaster Preparedness
• Culture Change Key to Safety, Quality Improvement

Legislative Issues
• What Health Reform Will Mean for Physicians and Hospitals

Key Industry Issues
• Wait Times in Emergency Department Surge

August/September 2010
What’s New in Quality Solutions
• Minimizing Never Events in New Amerinet Quality Podcast Episodes

Patient Safety Infrastructure
• Moving Quality and Cost to the top of the Hospital Agenda
• Med Schools Find that Teaching a Culture of Safety Starts on Day 1

Clinical Challenges
• MRSA: Hospitals Step Up Fight. Will It Be Enough?
• Preventable Catheter Related Bloodstream Infections (CRBSI’s) Still a Hospital Problem due to Leadership Support and Resources
• Regulatory Compliance
• Joint Commission (TJC) Publishes New Guide for Advancing Patient-Centered Care
• Synopsis of a Preventable Mortality Reduction Strategy

Practice Repository/Sharing/Benchmarking
• Tactical Decisions: How Clinic Chain Adopted EHR, Quality Tracking

Process Improvement Methods
• Predictable Scheduling

Safety/Disaster Preparedness
• Proactive Pandemic Planning: The Top 10 Lessons Learned from H1N1
Key Industry Issues

- Quest for Quality Expands: With New Pay Rules, Providers Receptive to Changes
- Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell: A Third of Physicians in a Study Don’t Feel Obligated to Report Impaired Docs

October 2010

Member/Supplier Feature

- Prairie du Chien Memorial Hospital

Quality Journal Club: Selection of the Month

- “Safe Patient, Smart Hospital” by Dr. Peter Pronovost, Professor of Anesthesia, Critical Care & Health Policy at Johns Hopkins

Patient Safety Infrastructure

- Fear of Falling can Lead to Falls, Researchers Conclude
- Study Recommends Disclose of Medical Mistakes that Affect Multiple Patients

Clinical Challenges

- Accountable Care Organization Primer-The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice
- More IT, Less MRSA: What tech is doing to control infectious disease

Regulatory Compliance

- Improving America’s Hospitals: The Joint Commission’s Report on Quality and Safety 2010

Practice Repository/Sharing/Benchmarking

- Respectful Management of Serious Clinical Adverse Events: White Paper
- The Joint Commission FAQ’s- October 2010 - Adverse Tissue Reaction Policies

Process Improvement Methods

- Patient Perceptions of Mistakes in Ambulatory Care
- Safety/Disaster Preparedness
- Wiping out the Bugs with Environmental Cleaning
- Legislative Issues
- Reimbursement Offsets for Medical Care or Services
- Key Industry Issues
- Drug Automation Reduces Errors: Study

November/December 2010

Member/Supplier Feature

- TowerMetriX

Quality Journal Club: Selection of the Month

- “Managing the Unexpected: Resilient Performance in an Age of Uncertainty” by Karl E. Weick & Kathleen M. Sutcliffe
Patient Safety Infrastructure
- Ten Years Safer. But Safe Enough?
- Clinical Challenges
- 5 Tips for Building Nurse Excellence
- Regulatory Compliance
- An ACO Blueprint

Practice Repository/Sharing/Benchmarking
- How to Develop an Information Management Lifecycle Methodology
- Development of Health Risk Assessment Guidelines

Process Improvement Methods
- Quality of Traditional Surveillance for Public Reporting of Nosocomial Bloodstream Infection Rates
- 7 Strategies for Improving HITECH Readiness
- Look Out, Your Medicine is Watching You

Safety (Disaster Preparedness)/Environmental issues (Green Initiatives)
- TJC Sentinel Event Alert #46
- Hygienic Design

Legislative Issues
- Medicare “Accountable Care Organizations” - Preliminary Questions and Answers
- 15 Suggestions for Implementing ACOs from New AHA Letter to CMS

Key Industry Issues
- Web Site to Collect EHR Safety Reports