

LOOKING AHEAD: Reducing Patient Harm through the Partnership for Patients Hospital Engagement Network

Goals

Reduce patient harm by 40 percent and hospital readmissions by 20 percent in three years. Reduce early elective deliveries – scheduled births before 39 weeks – to fewer than 3 percent percent of all Florida births by 2013.

About

FHA's successful collaboratives now continue under our Partnership for Patients Hospital Engagement Network in partnership with HRET. Through the national initiative, our hospitals continue to build upon gains made through earlier collaboratives to reduce readmissions and medical complications, with additional resources and expertise to accelerate learning and improvement. Currently, 74 hospitals from across the state are part of FHA's network. (Other Florida hospitals belong to other Hospital Engagement Networks.)

Hospitals in 31 states are able to share best practices and participate in joint educational opportunities through HRET; for Florida's hospitals the effort means already-established statewide collaboration is now expanded nationally. In fact, Florida's hospitals have been frequently called upon to share their learnings with other states.

The FHA network provides training and technical assistance in 10 areas of potential improvement in addition to early elective deliveries. Importantly, the program has infused Florida's collaboratives with access to additional resources and national expertise. Participating hospitals may choose to focus on two or more of the following areas:

- Adverse drug events
- Central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI)
- Catheter-associated urinary tract infection (CAUTI)
- Injury from falls and immobility
- Pressure ulcers
- Obstetrical adverse events
- Surgical site infections
- Venous thromboembolism
- Ventilator-associated pneumonia (blood clot)
- Readmissions

In return, participating hospitals submit data related to their focus areas to the HEN database. This data is collected, analyzed and returned to the hospitals as insights into ways to improve quality of care.

Results:

Florida met the initial goal set by HRET: 60 percent of the participating HEN hospitals reduced instances of harm by 30 percent in six focus areas.