



Nov. 26, 2013 ■ Issue 78

NJ HEN Partners with Johns Hopkins and Michigan Hospital Association on New VAE Initiative

The NJ HEN is partnering with Johns Hopkins University Armstrong Institute for Patient Safety and Quality and the Michigan Health & Hospital Association (MHA) Keystone Center to further reduce ventilator-associated events (VAE).

This initiative, funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, links directly with the focus of the PfP initiative and the federal Department of Health and Human Services' National Action plan to Prevent Healthcare--Associated Infections from early 2009. The plan targeted reductions in preventable infections including ventilator-assisted pneumonia (VAP).

This initiative seeks a two-year commitment from hospitals to implement interventions for VAP prevention including elevation of the head of the bed, spontaneous awakening and spontaneous breathing trials and subglottic suctioning. In addition, there are interventions specific to reducing the duration of mechanical ventilation and improving outcomes through early mobility and low tidal volume ventilation for the prevention of acute lung injury.

New Jersey's hospitals will work with participating sites to collect data for the duration of the project, using National Healthcare Safety Network data when possible. All content will be delivered virtually, reducing the need for hospital teams to travel, including a series of conference calls and materials to educate physicians, nurses, allied health professions and infection preventionists regarding proposed definitions for the project measures and data collection protocols. The NJ HEN will work with hospitals to collect objective outcomes from existing sources within their organization, including six months of baseline data for VAE.

An informational webinar will be offered with more details on date and time released shortly.

Any hospitals interested in joining this valuable program can contact Shannon Davila at 608-275-4154 or sdavila@njha.com.

Save the Date

Dec. 5 Prevention of Healthcare-associated Infections across Healthcare Settings

Watch for our 2014 calendar—coming soon!

[Click here to register.](#)