



November 5, 2014 ■ Issue 122

Save the Date

Nov. 10	Statewide Perinatal Safety Collaborative – Fall Learning Session
Nov. 19	2015 Joint Commission Hospital Accreditation Update
Nov. 20	Patient and Family Engagement across the Continuum and Across Cultures in N.J.
Dec. 1	Honoring our Military: Caring for Those Who Have Served

[Click here to register.](#)

New Jersey Hospitals Rank Fourth Nationally in Patient Safety

New data released last week from The Leapfrog Group shows that New Jersey hospitals rank fourth nationally in patient safety, moving up from April's rank of seventh.

Thirty-five of 67 Garden State hospitals and systems, or 52.23 percent, received a grade of A, up from 30 in the spring 2014 report.

Additional key findings from the Leapfrog report include:

- Of the 2,520 hospitals issued a Hospital Safety Score, 790 earned an A, 688 earned a B, 868 earned a C, 148 earned a D and 26 earned an F.
- On average, hospitals have shown statistically significant improvement on all 15 Hospital Safety Score “process” measures since spring 2014. These measures include hand hygiene, physician staffing in intensive care units and medication reconciliation.
- Of the Hospital Safety Score's 13 “outcome” measures, the only significant improvement since spring 2014 was seen in preventing central line-associated bloodstream infections in intensive care units.

AHRQ Offers New Version of Quality Indicators Toolkit

A new version of the AHRQ Quality Indicators Toolkit for Hospitals is available to help acute care facilities improve inpatient quality performance.

The toolkit is designed to help hospitals understand the quality indicators from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and use them to successfully improve quality and patient safety. The AHRQ quality indicators use hospital administrative data to assess the quality of care

provided, identify areas of concern in need of further investigation and monitor progress over time.

The free toolkit offers hospitals the opportunity to:

- Improve performance on two sets of AHRQ quality indicators, 18 patient safety Indicators and 28 inpatient quality indicators.
- Measure hospital quality using available inpatient data to assess the quality of care, identify areas that need improvement and track performance over time.
- Take advantage of “best practices,” including information to determine where gaps exist and suggestions for hospitals regarding improvement, process steps and additional resources.

Users can also approach quality improvement work from various levels of readiness. Facilities can select any of the 33 tools available to meet their specific hospital quality needs. The tools are designed for multiple audiences, including senior leaders, analysts and multidisciplinary improvement teams.