



October 7, 2014 ■ Issue 118

Save the Date

Please note: While the information below is a list of planned programs for 2014, at this time not all programs can be accessed online for registration.

Oct. 14	Webinar: 2014 Fall Prevention Update
Oct. 21	Improving Surgical Safety and Patient Outcomes
Nov. 10	Statewide Perinatal Safety Collaborative – Fall Learning Session
Nov. 11	A Call to Action: Advance Care Planning Provider Summit
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.](#)

Guidelines Introduced to New Jersey Hospitals

NJHA, in collaboration with the American College of Emergency Physicians' New Jersey chapter, N.J. Emergency Nurses Association and the president of the national ACEP, rolled out new [Geriatric Emergency Department Guidelines](#) to more than 130 participants from more than 50 hospitals at an educational conference held last week.

The purpose of the Guidelines is to provide a standardized set of practices that can be implemented in the ED to improve the care of the geriatric population. These guidelines create a template for staffing, equipment, education, policies and procedures, follow-up care and performance improvement measures.

Mark Rosenberg, MD, St. Joseph's Healthcare System, talked about the experience of implementing the GED guidelines in St Joseph's Hospital's ED. [Click here](#) for more information on St. Joseph's Hospital's GED as well as a virtual tour of the ED.

Contact Nancy Winter at nwinter@njha.com, to get copies of any of the presentations from the conference.

AHRQ Brief Shows Decline in Preventable Hospitalizations

A new [brief](#) from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality shows progress in efforts to reduce the number of preventable hospitalizations.

According to Geographic Variation in Potentially Preventable Hospitalizations for Acute and Chronic Conditions, a statistical brief from the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project, the national rate of potentially preventable hospitalizations for adults declined 14 percent between 2005 and 2011. The brief shows that potentially preventable hospitalizations accounted for 10.4 percent of all hospitalizations in 2011.

The report examined regional differences in preventable hospitalizations and found that the South consistently had the highest rate of potentially preventable hospitalizations, followed by the Midwest, Northeast and West.

The data also shows greater success in reducing preventable hospitalizations for acute conditions compared with chronic conditions. Between 2005 and 2011, potentially preventable hospitalizations decreased by 20.2 percent for acute conditions but only 9.5 percent for chronic conditions.