



Leading Websites—Patient Safety

This listing of leading websites on the topic of patient or health system safety is part of a resource under development by the provincial Health Care Safety Working Group for use by organizations delivering health care in Nova Scotia.

Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons— *Building a Safer System: A National Integrated Strategy for Improving Patient Safety in Canadian Health Care.*

http://rcpsc.medical.org/main_e.php?vtype=gp

In September 2001, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada held a one-day forum on patient safety as part of its Annual Conference. Over 50 experts, health-care professionals, government officials and health-care association members (domestic and international) participated in the roundtable. Consensus was reached on the need to develop a coordinated strategy for improving patient safety within Canada.

Health Canada—Information on the new Canadian Patient Safety Institute

<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/english/care/cpsi.html>

Federal, provincial and territorial governments, health care stakeholders, as well as providers and institutions have long considered the safety of patients in the Canadian health care system as a priority issue. All of these groups are involved in a range of activities related to the safety and quality of care. The CPSI will provide a coordinating mechanism to share the information and knowledge garnered from the wide range of strategies to improve patient safety.

CIHI and CIHR Study on Adverse Events—

www.cihi.ca/adverse-events

The Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI), along with the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), are jointly funding research to determine the extent of adverse events (avoidable and otherwise) in Canadian hospitals and the availability of data that could serve to monitor and reduce health system adverse events. CIHI's website provides details about how the study was conducted and how the results will be published.

IHI—Institute for Healthcare Improvement (US)

www.ihl.org

IHI exists to accelerate health care improvement throughout the world by finding and cultivating improvement ideas, bringing people and organizations together to learn from each other. It focuses on the needs of health care professionals to improve the care they give to patients by providing implementable solutions. The site describes IHI-sponsored conferences and group initiatives such as the Breakthrough Series Collaboratives, which involve 20 to 40 health care organizations working together for six to eight months to improve a specific clinical or operational area.

VA National Center for Patient Safety (US)

www.patientsafety.gov

Website of the US Department of Veterans Affairs' safety program, for use by all Veterans Affairs hospitals. Site includes a newsletter providing timely topics concerning patient safety, a library of links and a comprehensive procedures manual (safety improvement handbook) on managing adverse events.

NPSA – National Patient Safety Institute (UK)

www.npsa.nhs.uk

Created to co-ordinate efforts to report and learn from mistakes and problems that affect patient safety. The NPSA tries to promote an open and fair culture in the NHS, encouraging all healthcare staff to report incidents without undue fear of personal reprimand. It collects and analyzes information on patient safety incidents from NHS organizations, staff and patients. The site reports news, useful links, and patient safety alerts and goals, and has separate sections for the public, health professionals, media and industry.

Safety and Quality Council (AU)

www.safetyandquality.org

The Council was established by Australian Health Ministers to lead national efforts to improve the safety and quality of health care provision in

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Australia. It develops national strategies, priorities and frameworks, and increases public confidence in the safety of the healthcare system. The site has a large collection of Australian publications, alerts, guidelines, recommendations, and links to conference information.

NPSF - National Patient Safety Foundation (US)

www.npsf.org

The NPSF aims to improve patient safety by acting as a resource site and creating a core body of knowledge. It has links to thousands of articles, forums, websites, conferences and fact sheets for both the healthcare industry and consumers. <http://www.npsf.org/html/resources.html>

IOM—Institute of Medicine (US)

www.iom.edu

The IOM's role is to serve as adviser to the nation to improve health by providing unbiased, evidence-based, and authoritative information and advice concerning health and science policy to policy-makers, professionals, leaders in every sector of society, and the public at large. It gives science-based advice on matters of biomedical science, medicine, and health. The site lists mainly committee reports, studies and projects.

AHRQ—Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (US)

www.ahrq.gov

Sponsors and conducts research designed to improve the outcomes and quality of health care, reduce its costs, and address patient safety and medical errors. Provides broad range of quality tools aimed at multiple stakeholders.

JCR—Joint Commission Resources (US)

www.jcrinc.com

JCR is a subsidiary of the US Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO). It provides global information regarding good practices and healthcare quality improvement, while providing

resources for US organizations to achieve peak performance on their accreditation surveys. Includes information on training and publications, "this week's advice,"

NQF—National Quality Forum (US)

www.qualityforum.org

NQF aims to improve American healthcare through the endorsement of consensus-based national standards for measurement and public reporting of healthcare performance data. Its goal is to develop the primary standards used to measure the quality of healthcare in the United States, and be the principal body that endorses national healthcare performance measures and quality indicators. The site has posted conference proceedings and reports relating to standards development, and press releases on recent initiatives.

QualityHealthCare.org (US)

www.qualityhealthcare.org

IHI, in collaboration with the British Medical Journal Publishing Group, developed this website to offer the means to improve healthcare delivery. It offers a collection of tips & tools for developing a culture of safety.

Health Quality Council (CA)

www.hqc.sk.ca

The Council is a new, independent agency that reports on and recommends innovative ways to improve quality within Saskatchewan's health system, and provides advice to governments and healthcare professionals. It is the first agency of its kind in Canada. A subscription to a daily and quarterly newsletter with health news is available through the site, as well as information on upcoming conferences and speakers.