

National Patient Safety Initiative: Surgical Care Improvement Project (SCIP) and Heart Failure (HF) in Hospitals



Resources for better healthcare

As part of the National Patient Safety Initiative (NPSI), CIMRO of Nebraska is engaging providers to address patient harm for which there is evidence of how to improve safety by improving healthcare processes and systems.

Project Background

Building upon recent successes, CIMRO of Nebraska is working intensively with a select number of hospitals identified by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to accelerate improvement in reducing surgical complications and improving heart failure care. The goal is to adopt evidence-based practices and implement sustainable system changes that reduce treatment variation and ensure patients receive the right care every time.

Participating hospitals are addressing the following measures:

- SCIP-Card 2 Surgery Patients on Beta-Blocker Therapy Prior to Arrival who received a Beta Blocker during the Perioperative Period
- SCIP-Inf 1 Prophylactic Antibiotic Received within One Hour Prior to Surgery
- SCIP-Inf 2 Appropriate Prophylactic Antibiotic Selection
- SCIP-Inf 3 Prophylactic Antibiotics Discontinued with 24 Hours after Surgery End
- SCIP-Inf 4 Cardiac Surgery Patients with Controlled 6 a.m. Postoperative Serum Glucose
- SCIP-Inf 6 Surgery Patients with Appropriate Hair Removal
- SCIP-VTE 1 Surgery Patients with Recommended VTE Prophylaxis Ordered
- SCIP-VTE 2 Surgery Patients Who Received Appropriate VTE Prophylaxis Within 24 Hours Prior to Surgery to 24 hours After Surgery
- HF-3 Heart Failure Patients with left ventricular systolic dysfunction without ACEI and ARB contraindications who are prescribed ACEI/ARB at discharge

Role of CIMRO of Nebraska

- Conduct consultation visits to assist in developing high functioning SCIP/HF teams
- Provide tools, resources and technical assistance in implementing best practices related to SCIP and HF
- Promote collaboration, sharing and problem solving among participating hospitals through conference calls and e-mail discussion groups
- Host educational training sessions via WebEx and teleconference
- Administer the AHRQ Hospital Survey on Patient Culture and HLQAT with analysis of survey results
- Provide feedback to senior leaders on project status, including SCIP/HF measure comparison reports
- Promote mentoring opportunities with Nebraska hospitals that have successful practices in place related to SCIP and HF care
- Facilitate recognition of successes at a local and/or national level

Expectations of Participating Hospitals

- Commitment by senior leadership of time, resources and guidance in the National Patient Safety Initiative to improve inpatient surgical safety and heart failure care
- Form multidisciplinary quality improvement teams focused on surgical care improvement and heart failure
- Make system changes that are known to produce improvement when properly implemented
- Collect and report data to the CMS Clinical Data Warehouse on SCIP and HF measures
- Complete the AHRQ Hospital Survey on Patient Culture and the Hospital Leadership and Quality Assessment Tool (HLQAT) in 2008 and 2010. Initiate system improvements based on the results
- Participate in educational sessions, teleconferences and onsite meetings hosted by CIMRO of Nebraska
- Facilitate continuous quality improvement through sharing intervention tools and information on effective methods for improving processes and outcomes with peers

Questions? Contact a member of the CIMRO of Nebraska Patient Safety Team at 800-458-4262.