



PATIENT SAFETY | COLLABORATION | EDUCATION | QUALITY HEALTH CARE
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210, 811 – 14 Street NW Calgary, Alberta T2N 2A4
P 403.297.8162 F 403.297.8258 www.hqca.ca

For more information

Ms. Dale Wright, Quality & Safety Initiatives Lead
Health Quality Council of Alberta
403.355.4439 dale.wright@hqca.ca

A collaborative initiative sponsored by the Health Quality Council of Alberta



Patient Safety Education

In spring 2009, the Health Quality Council of Alberta began a multi-year collaborative project – **the Blueprint Project** – to develop a framework for patient safety education in Alberta. The project will identify consistent key messages related to patient safety that should be incorporated into educational programs at all levels (undergraduate, post-graduate, workplace learning) for all healthcare workers (support staff, front-line care providers, managers, senior executives and board members). Major themes and learning topics for the framework have been identified based on the Healthcare Encounter Safety & Quality Model, which presents an integrated systems-focused, principles-based and functionally-oriented view of patient safety.

Vision

All those involved in providing health care (from support workers to board members) have a common understanding of key components of patient safety and quality and use this to continually invest in making patient care safer.

Mission

Work collaboratively to develop a detailed framework of learning outcomes and objectives and some priority supporting curriculum resources incorporating key messages about patient safety concepts/topics that can be used in educating all who work in the healthcare system about principles and processes of patient safety.

Project Partners

Health Quality Council of Alberta, Alberta Health Services, University of Alberta, University of Calgary, University of Lethbridge, Mount Royal University, Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, Norquest College, Canadian Patient Safety Institute, British Columbia Patient Safety and Quality Council, Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety



Environmental Scan of Patient Safety in Post-Secondary Education

An environmental scan was completed in spring 2010 to determine the extent to which a systems approach to patient safety is currently being addressed in undergraduate education programs for regulated healthcare providers in Alberta. In addition, feedback was gathered on a self-assessment tool for patient safety education under development by the Blueprint Project. This tool will assist post-secondary healthcare provider education programs in determining where they are at in the process of integrating a systems approach to patient safety into their programs.

Patient Safety Principles

Six foundational principles have been identified that provide a philosophical underpinning for all topics to be addressed by the Blueprint Project. These principles define the basic requirements for safe health care:

- ▶ Patient engagement at all levels of healthcare delivery
- ▶ Respectful, transparent relationships between and among those who deliver and those who receive health care
- ▶ Recognition that health workers function within complex systems to deliver care
- ▶ A just and trusting culture
- ▶ Appropriate responsibility/accountability at all levels of a healthcare system
- ▶ Continuous learning and improvement

Alberta Approach to Patient Safety Incident Analysis

To support education on the topic of adverse event analysis, Blueprint Project stakeholders are developing an evidence-based approach to analyzing and learning from patient safety incidents (hazardous situations, close calls, adverse events) that incorporates process elements common to techniques currently used in Alberta. A user's guide and toolkit, including recommendations for standardized terminology, will be developed as a resource for education and implementation.