

Promoting and improving patient safety and health service quality across Alberta



Breaking News



October 2010

HQCA welcomes new Council members

We are pleased to welcome two new Council members: Annamarie Fuchs and Anthony H. Lam. They replace Bonnie Laing and Robert Johnston, MD whose terms have ended.

New addition to the HQCA

Charlene Blair is the newest addition to the HQCA team. Previously Charlene worked for Cardinal Health Canada where she focused on the implementation of patient safety technologies in Canadian hospitals. A registered pharmacist, she is working on an MBA through Athabasca University.

Halifax 10: The Canadian Healthcare Safety Symposium

Celebrate the 10th anniversary of the *Halifax Symposium* October 21 to 23 at The Marriott Waterfront Hotel in Halifax, Nova Scotia. [Click here](#) for more information.

Canadian Patient Safety Week

November 1-5, 2010
Good health care starts with good communication

[Click here for more information.](#)

Patient Safety Framework for Albertans released



On September 20, 2010, the Honourable Gene Zwozdesky, Minister of Alberta Health and Wellness, and HQCA Chief Executive Officer Dr. John Cowell launched a new provincial framework to guide, direct and support continuous and measureable improvement of patient safety for Albertans.

>> [Click Here](#)

Patient/Family Safety Advisory Panel established

A significant outcome from the new *Patient Safety Framework for Albertans* is the establishment of a Patient/Family Safety Advisory Panel. Under the jurisdiction and guidance of the HQCA, the advisory panel will leverage the experiences and perspectives of patients and their families to improve and promote patient safety in Alberta's health system. Deb Prowse has been appointed interim chair.

Recommendation from Alberta Health Act consultation focuses on the HQCA

A September 2010 report on changes to provincial health legislation included a recommendation specific to the HQCA. Recommendation #11 called on the HQCA to..."measure, monitor, assess and regularly report to Albertans through the Minister on whether the health system is performing in accordance with the principles in the Alberta Health Act and the Health Charter mandated by the Act." [Click here](#) to read the complete report.

2009-2010 annual report is here



The HQCA's latest annual report is now available. [Click here](#) to find out what we've been doing over the past year.

Poster accepted at Halifax 10

The HQCA's poster entitled *Environmental Scan of Patient Safety Education in Alberta's Post-Secondary Education Sector* has been accepted at the upcoming Halifax 10 conference, which takes place October 21 to 23 in Nova Scotia.

Long Term Care Family Experience Survey underway

The HQCA has begun work on the second *Long Term Care Family Experience Survey*. In 2007 and 2008, we surveyed 7,943 family members about their experiences at over 170 long term care facilities throughout Alberta. The results of our second survey will be available in spring 2011.

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