



PARTNERSHIP FOR PATIENT CARE (PPC) PROGRAM SUMMARY FOR 2015

Formed in 2006, **Partnership for Patient Care, (PPC)** is a multi-year, quality and patient safety effort involving hospitals in the five county southeastern Pennsylvania region, now joined by other providers and interested stakeholders in the area. Funded by Independence Blue Cross and the hospital community, the focus of PPC is to accelerate the effective adoption of evidence-based clinical practices by pooling the resources, knowledge, and efforts of healthcare providers in our region.

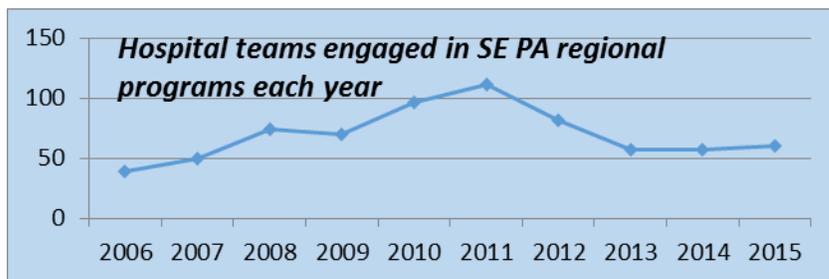
The Health Care Improvement Foundation (HCIF), an independent non-profit organization based in Philadelphia, provides program support and coordination for PPC initiatives. HCIF leads healthcare initiatives aimed at improving the safety, outcomes and care experiences of all patients, residents and consumers across Pennsylvania. Using HCIF's approach, PPC has been recognized as an outstanding example of how advances in quality care can be achieved through large-scale regional collaboration.

Ten Year Anniversary

The year 2015 marked the ten year anniversary of PPC. To recognize a decade of commitment to improving health care quality and patient safety in southeastern Pennsylvania, HCIF's Board of Directors commissioned a report titled **PRIDE: A Decade of Improving Health Care Quality and Patient Safety in Southeastern Pennsylvania**. The report, prepared by the Pennsylvania Health Care Quality Alliance, utilized publicly-reported data to assess the sustained achievements of past PPC programs. To view or download the full version of the report please [click here](#). Highlights of the report included these regional accomplishments:

- 27% overall decline in hospital-acquired infections, and 57% decline in central line bloodstream infections.
- 73% reduction in wrong-site surgeries
- Implementation or expansion of 8 additional palliative care programs at SE PA hospitals
- 10% reduction in 30-day readmissions, with documented savings of \$3.8 million per year
- 94% reduction in non-medically indicated early elective deliveries

PPC's unique model of payer / provider collaboration has enjoyed robust levels of participation each year. Although program opportunities were limited in 2014 and 2015 due to hospitals' involvement in mandatory CMS-funded improvement initiatives, there were 60 hospital teams engaged in regional programs in 2015, a slight increase from the previous year.



The profiles on the next page describe the new or continued collaborative work funded by PPC in 2015.

Pennsylvania Urology Regional Collaborative (PURC)

Under PPC's umbrella, HCIF has convened the six major urology practices from the five county southeastern Pennsylvania region in a multi-year data-sharing and improvement collaborative aimed at advancing the quality of diagnosis and care for men with prostate cancer, a disease which challenges physicians with a multitude of treatment options.



PURC leverages the data registry, resources and tools developed by a similar effort funded by Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan, with the goal of optimizing value-based care and improving outcomes. Studies have shown a wide variation in urologists' treatment choices, suggesting that the topic is well suited to a collaborative approach. PURC activities include face to face meetings, webinars, and tools for data analytics and sharing best practice.

Addressing the Prostate Cancer Issue - What facilities are doing:

- Participating in a reliable, sustainable platform for prostate cancer data collection with real time feedback to identify practice trends and provide regional benchmarks. At the close of 2015, the PURC registry was tracking the diagnosis, treatment and outcomes for 1200 patients in southeastern Pennsylvania.
- Reducing variation in diagnostic services and care delivery including addressing the costs of "over-diagnosis" and "over-treatment" related to the increase in prostate cancer screening.
- Improving adherence to national guidelines including the American Urological Association's *Choosing Wisely* campaign and treatment recommendations defined by the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN).
- Expanding patient-centered decision-making among men faced with treatment choices for prostate cancer
- Identifying the role of molecular diagnostics and genomics and how they are integrated into clinical practice.

Improving CPOE Safety

With funding from PPC and the Cardinal Health Foundation, HCIF collaborated with the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) on the November 2015 launch of a new collaborative, ***"Improving Safety of Computerized Prescriber Order Entry Through Event-Based Testing"***. The project has engaged seven (7) hospitals across southeastern Pennsylvania in a 12-month collaborative. Expert members of the ISMP team will offer their extensive understanding of medication systems and related technology to conduct an assessment of each hospital's CPOE system. The findings, strategies, best practices and lessons learned through ISMP's individual hospital assessments will be broadly shared with the aim of accelerating improvement.

Addressing the CPOE Safety Issue - What facilities are doing:

- Testing the safety and reliability of their CPOE systems by simulating pharmacy orders for test patients in high-risk situations that have been shown to cause medication errors.
- Identifying system vulnerabilities and implementing interventions, including changes in system parameters, alarms, and overrides.
- Learning from ISMP's base of knowledge on medication errors and their findings from CPOE assessments done at hospitals across the United States.
- Sharing best practices and lessons learned with collaborating hospitals to ensure that the potential for similar errors are detected and fixed.

2015 PPC Leadership Summit

The annual PPC Leadership Summit was held on March 18, 2015 in Philadelphia, with over 160 quality and safety leaders in attendance to mark PPC's ten year anniversary. In addition, attendees celebrated the achievements of 2014 initiatives, learned about upcoming programs, and shared in the recognition of the "top ten" entries in the Delaware Valley Patient Safety & Quality Award program. Martin Makary, MD, MPH was the featured keynote speaker, with an inspiring message promoting greater transparency in healthcare.