PARTNERSHIP FOR PATIENT CARE (PPC)
2018 PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Partnership for Patient Care (PPC) is a collaboration with Independence Blue Cross and the region’s hospitals, which began in 2006 to accelerate the adoption of evidence-based clinical practices by pooling the resources, knowledge, and efforts of healthcare providers and partners. As a signature program of the Health Care Improvement Foundation (HCIF), PPC’s vision is to be the safest region in the country. This unique collaboration between payer and providers to share successful experiences and to jointly fund quality and patient safety improvement initiatives has been recognized as a national model. The inclusive and collaborative nature of PPC’s improvement efforts has enabled the region to transcend a highly competitive provider marketplace and foster partnerships with organizations that share a common desire for quality improvement.

The Health Care Improvement Foundation (HCIF), an independent non-profit organization based in Philadelphia, provides program support and coordination for PPC initiatives. HCIF’s mission is to drive high-value health care through stakeholder collaboration and targeted quality improvement initiatives. Using HCIF’s approach, PPC is an outstanding example of how advances in quality care can be achieved through large-scale regional collaboration.

Each year, HCIF requests contributions to PPC from the regions hospital and health system leaders. Funding supports a wide range of programs and initiatives. PPC’s funding structure is based on a “fair share” voluntary contribution model, which is administered in May of each year. After hospital contributions are received, IBC reimburses hospitals and health systems for those payments at a 50% level.

Close to $700,000 was raised in 2018, from organizations representing more than 40 hospitals and their affiliated providers. Despite increasing merger and consolidation activity among SE PA health systems in recent years, PPC’s unique model of payer / provider collaboration has sustained robust levels of support from the region’s health systems.

Over the last 14 years, the region’s hospitals have worked together on a variety of PPC topics aimed at improving the quality and safety of care delivered to patients in our region. PPC has funded over 24 multi-year collaboratives addressing a variety of quality and safety priorities.

The information below highlights the 2018 contributors and the collaborative work funded by PPC in 2018.
**Survey Findings**

- **100%** of respondents reported that the committee serves as a catalyst for positive change
- **91%** thought the work of committee meetings is productive
- **82%** agreed that HCIF programming is more effective because of the committee
- **91%** rated the benefit of participation on the committee as good to superior for:
  - Building relationships with other committee members
  - Networking and exchanging information with others
  - Working with others on issues of importance
  - Making progress towards meaningful changes
- Respondents reported that the greatest strengths of PPC programs are: the exposure to best practices, engaged and active participation, achieving positive outcomes, and sharing resources and tools.

---

**Clinical Advisory Committee**

PPC topics are selected by HCIF’s Clinical Advisory Committee, a voluntary expert panel of healthcare providers and partners from organizations across Southeastern PA established by HCIF’s Board of Directors. The committee also has the important role of providing input into programmatic development, monitoring the progress of each collaborative, making recommendations as needed, and determining program strengths and opportunities for continued improvement. In spring of 2018, HCIF surveyed the Committee.

**Spring 2018 Online Survey**

- 19 Questions
- Assess PPC Programming & Committee Performance and Value
- 4 years since last survey
- 65% response rate

---

**List of Contributing Hospitals**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crozer-Keystone Health System</th>
<th>Jefferson Health</th>
<th>Penn Medicine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doylestown Hospital</td>
<td>Thomas Jefferson University Hospital</td>
<td>Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jefferson Methodist Hospital Division</td>
<td>Pennsylvania Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Einstein Healthcare Network</td>
<td>Abington – Jefferson Health</td>
<td>Penn Presbyterian Medical Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Abington Lansdale Hospital – Jefferson Health</td>
<td>Chester County Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jefferson Torresdale Hospital</td>
<td>Lancaster General Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Einstein Medical Center</td>
<td>Jefferson Frankford Hospital</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>Jefferson Bucks Hospital</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Einstein Montgomery</td>
<td>Magee Rehabilitation Hospital</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main Line Health</td>
<td>Bryn Mawr Hospital</td>
<td>Temple University Health System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lankenau Hospital</td>
<td>Temple University Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Paoli Memorial Hospital</td>
<td>Jeanes Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand View Hospital</td>
<td>Riddle Memorial Hospital</td>
<td>Fox Chase Cancer Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holy Redeemer Health System</td>
<td>Mercy Health System of Southeastern PA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The annual Partnership for Patient Care Leadership Summit was held this past spring to celebrate the collaboration between Independence Blue Cross and the Philadelphia region’s hospitals. The Leadership Summit highlights the successes of PPC programs from the past year.

Attendees benefit from:
- Shared learning among regional health care leaders
- Highlights quality and safety priorities
- Networking

2018 Summit Presentations
- Keynote Barbara Balik, RN, EdD, Aefina Partners, Creating Safety and Joy in Work: 4 Leadership Actions
- 2018 Delaware Valley Patient Safety & Quality Award Program Winners
- Edouard Trabulsi, MD, FACS, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Pennsylvania Urology Regional Collaborative: Improving Prostate Cancer Care Delivery
- Claudette Fonshell, RN, BSN, HCIF, Regional Safe Community Program

PPC has funded the Delaware Valley Patient Safety and Quality Award Program since 2002. The program is one of many ways in which HCIF promotes best practices in health care patient safety and quality throughout the region. The award recognizes hospitals and other providers for their innovative contributions in advancing patient care. Winners are selected by a two-tiered judging process involving regional quality and patient safety leaders and experts. Healthcare organizations/health systems with an entry in the top ten display their initiatives at HCIF’s annual PPC Leadership Summit. Additionally, HCIF introduced a webinar this year as another opportunity to promote and showcase the winning initiatives.

2017 Top Three Winners
- **First Place Winner:** Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, *Implementation of a Patient Blood Management Program*
- **Second Place Winner:** Jefferson Torresdale Hospital, *Progressive Mobility: Evidence Based Program Improves Outcomes in Critically Ill Patients*
- **Third Place Winner:** Temple University Health System, *SAFE-T (Sleep Awareness Family Education at Temple)* Program

100% rated the overall satisfaction of the webinar as excellent
HCIF launched this major multi-year PPC initiative in 2017, entitled, “Regional Safe Community”. The expressed purpose of the Regional Safe Community is to advance the PPC vision by collaborating and learning from safety event experiences and sharing patient safety methodologies and best practices. The program is comprised of two key components, PPC Safe Table and Safety Forum. 2018 represented the second year of the program; highlights of 2018 program activities are as follows.

**Safe Table**

A regional forum of hospital Patient Safety Officers where safety concerns and Patient Safety Work Product (PWSP) are discussed in a legally protected environment and where solutions and best practices are shared. ECRI Institute Patient Safety Organization (PSO), a federally listed PSO, provides a legally protected environment for this peer-to-peer exchange of safety experiences and Patient Safety Work Product.

**Meeting Takeaways:**
- Common themes emerged
- Resources were shared among organizations
- Best practices and solutions were discussed

100% rated the value of meetings as excellent

**5 In-Person Meetings in 2018 (Increase from 2 meetings in 2017)**

**Safety Forum**

The Safety Forum program engages front line leaders and staff, including individuals working in risk management, patient safety, quality, and regulatory to examine safety hazards and vulnerabilities that could potentially result in a safety event. Safety Forum participants discuss issues and share opinions, strategies, tools, processes, and tactics with their safety peers across the region. Participation is open to hospital and non-hospital providers in Southeastern Pennsylvania.

**Workshop Takeaways:**
- Understood how a decentralized RCA is structured and what the process is in identifying variations in RCAs
- Learned about the development and necessity of an RCA facilitator evaluation tool and its process
- Tested the utilization of a RCA facilitator evaluation tool

92% rated the workshop as very good to excellent

**June 1, 2018 Workshop**

A Decentralized RCA Process: Using Simulation to Assess Root Cause Analysis Competency
PURC is a quality improvement initiative that brings major urology practices together in a physician-led, multi-year, data-sharing and improvement collaborative aimed at advancing the quality of diagnosis and care for men with prostate cancer. PURC, established in February 2015, is funded through the support of PPC, independent practices, and grants.

9,866 Cases Entered 9* Practices 132* Urologists
5 Working Groups 3 Patient Advocates
*Not including Cohort 3

Accomplishments

Developed and distributed an imaging appropriateness pocket card to all providers

47% Decrease in bone scan when not indicated
84% Decrease in very low risk bone scan
39% Decrease in low risk bone scan
20% Increase in Active Surveillance (AS) treatment for low-risk patients, resulting in savings of $513,696
Characterized and addressed the landscape of AS practice and utilization

2018 Research Using PURC Data
3 American Urological Association (AUA) Abstracts
3 Mid-Atlantic AUA Abstracts
1 Published Manuscript in Journal of Urology

Active Surveillance
Used PURC data to develop evidenced-based patient eligibility criteria for active surveillance.

Biopsy
Evaluated antibiotic prophylaxis infection rates and shared biopsy protocols, resulting in 1 practice redesigning its biopsy processes.

Genomic
Created metrics to evaluate genomic test utilization with plans to provide education on genomic test appropriateness in 2019.

Imaging
Developed new MRI measures and continues to promote appropriate imaging.

Opioid
New working group established November 2018 to decrease overprescribing of opioids and develop pain management guidelines.

Working Groups

2015
Cohort 1
Einstein • Fox Chase • Temple Penn Medicine • Jefferson Urology Health Specialists

2016
Cohort 2
Geisinger • Hershey Cooper

2017
Cohort 3
UPMC Cancer Institute of NJ

$63,872 CT & BS avoided

“PURC has afforded us the ability to disseminate the Thomas Jefferson biopsy protocol to Hershey and enact a new workflow to decrease the rate of serious infections requiring hospitalization and outpatient antibiotic treatment as well as decrease overall antibiotic utilization.”
- Mark J. Mann, MD

Expansion Beyond Data: PURC’s New Grant-Funded Initiatives

Active Surveillance Roadmap: With funding from the Dolfinger-McMahon Foundation, PURC will pilot an evidence-based tool for informed decision-making in low-risk prostate cancer patients. The pilot program’s goal is to increase the number of patients who are offered active surveillance as an alternative to aggressive treatment.

Community Prostate Cancer Screening: With funding from the PA DOH, PURC offered free PSA tests to North and Northwest Philadelphia residents. PURC is also piloting a program using evidence-based resources that will promote informed decision-making for prostate cancer screening.