About the Health Care Improvement Foundation

The Health Care Improvement Foundation (HCIF), an independent non-profit organization based in Philadelphia, provides program support and coordination for Partnership for Patient Care (PPC) initiatives. HCIF’s mission is to drive high-value health care through stakeholder collaboration and targeted quality improvement initiatives.
Looking Back at 2019

30+ Hospitals

12 Events Facilitated

300+ Attendees

Since Establishment in 2006

26 Programs

14 Years

2,000+ Participants

The Partnership for Patient Care (PPC) is a collaboration with Independence Blue Cross and the region’s hospitals to accelerate the adoption of evidence-based clinical practices by pooling the resources, knowledge, and efforts of healthcare providers and partners. As a signature HCIF program, PPC is an outstanding example of how advances in quality care can be achieved through large-scale regional collaboratives. This unique collaboration between payer and providers shares successful experiences and jointly funds quality and patient safety improvement initiatives. PPC’s inclusive and collaborative nature has enhanced the region’s ability to perform in a highly competitive provider marketplace. Furthermore, PPC unites organizations with a common desire for quality improvement.

VISION:

To be the safest region in the country
Each year, HCIF requests contributions to PPC from hospital and health system leaders in the region. 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.

HCIF thanks the 13 regional hospitals & health systems that have invested in PPC for the last 10 years.

List of Contributing Hospitals

**Crozer–Keystone Health System**
- Crozer-Chester Medical Center
- Delaware County Memorial Hospital

**Doylestown Hospital**

**Einstein Healthcare Network**
- Einstein Medical Center Philadelphia
- Einstein Medical Center Montgomery

**Grand View Hospital**

**Holy Redeemer Health System**

**Jefferson Health**
- Abington Hospital
- Abington Lansdale Hospital
- Jefferson Bucks Hospital
- Jefferson Frankford Hospital
- Jefferson Methodist Hospital
- Jefferson Torresdale Hospital
- Magee Rehabilitation Hospital
- Thomas Jefferson University Hospital

**Penn Medicine**
- Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania
- Pennsylvania Hospital
- Penn Presbyterian Medical Center
- Chester County Hospital
- Lancaster General Hospital

**Temple University Health System**
- Fox Chase Cancer Center
- Jeanes Hospital
- Temple University Hospital

**Main Line Health**
- Bryn Mawr Hospital
- Lankenau Medical Center
- Paoli Hospital
- Riddle Hospital

**Trinity Health Mid-Atlantic**
- Mercy Health System of Southeastern PA
- St. Mary Medical Center
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.

2019 Committee Member Focus Areas:

- Behavioral health integration
- Opioid surgical stewardship
- Workplace safety
- Prostate health
- Culture of safety

WHO ARE THEY?

A group of quality and patient safety experts from PPC-contributing health systems and partner organizations

WHAT DO THEY DO?

Identifies the region’s quality and patient safety priorities and provides guidance to HCIF in its PPC programs

“Who knew philanthropy could go this far?”

Henry Pitt, MD
Chief Quality Officer
Temple University Health System
Chair of HCIF Clinical Advisory Committee

“...channeling ideas from its healthcare organizations into work that improves our communities.”

Jeremy Souder, MD, FHM, FACP
Patient Safety Officer
Pennsylvania Hospital
Vice Chair of HCIF Clinical Advisory Committee
PROGRAMS

Leadership Summit

Each year the Partnership for Patient Care hosts an annual in-person conference to celebrate the collaboration between Independence Blue Cross and the Philadelphia region’s hospitals. The 2019 Spring Conference partnered with the Philadelphia Area Society of Healthcare Risk Management (PASHRM) to highlight the successes of PPC programs from the past year and to address the region’s pertinent quality, safety, and risk topics.

2019 Leadership Summit Presenters and Topics

- Keynote Michael Leonard, MD, Founder of Safe & Reliable Healthcare, A Systematic Approach to Building a Culture of Safety and High Reliability Care
- 2018 Delaware Valley Patient Safety & Quality Award Winners
- Regional Quality Improvement Expert Panel
- Pam Braun, BSN, MSN, HCIF, Regional Safe Community Program

Safety Award

PPC has funded the Delaware Valley Patient Safety and Quality Award Program since 2002. The annual 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 spring conference and a summer webinar.

2019 Safety Award Top 3 Award Winners

1st
Thomas Jefferson University Hospital
- "The Patient Safety Escape Room: A Novel Orientation Activity"
- 250+ interns educated, resulting in higher confidence identifying patient safety priority

2nd
Temple University Hospital
- "Opioid Stewardship in an Opioid Epidemic"
- 44% reduction in post-operative prescribed opioids

3rd
Main Line Health
- "Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS): Innovative Improvement in Surgery"
- 12% improvement in early ambulation for patients
Safe Table

A unique convening of hospital Patient Safety Officers where safety concerns and Patient Safety Work Product (PWSP) discussions are protected 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.

Table Topics
- Workplace safety
- Treatment of prisoners
- Patient elopement
- Incident reporting

Lessons Learned
- Content experts are present to provide clinical expertise when relevant
- Meeting topics and discussion are informed by participants’ collective needs
- Confidential shared portal developed to enable and support independent quality improvement efforts to continue offline

100% of Safe Table respondents rated meetings as valuable

Everyone is struggling with this issue. The plan & implementation of Hershey Medical Center is valuable and to hear the passion for success from Tracy & Brian was the spark for the flame!

-2019 Safety Forum Attendee

Safety Forum

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

Forum Discussions:
- Culture of safety
- Safety surveys
- Workplace safety

2019 Presenters
from Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center:
- Brian Albrecht, BSN, RN, CPN, CNML, Nurse Manager, Pediatric Acute Care
- Tracy Sinopoli, BSN, RNBC, Nurse Manager, Contingency Pool

“The Safe Table Program brings a dedicated team together striving for best possible outcomes, implementing evidence based practice, learning from each other and striving to improve care for their individual organizations. I am grateful and honored to collaborate with such a highly devoted, intelligent and enthusiastic team.”

-Safe Table Member
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

- 17 journal publications and published abstracts since 2016
- Board seats on PA Cancer Coalition and PA Prostate Cancer Coalition
- Reduced antibiotic variation from 75 different antibiotics in use by providers to 3 specific antibiotic recommendations

"Members of the PURC collaborative believe that physician engagement, collaboration, and leadership will help define value and quality and improve patient care from the bottom up."

- Robert G. Uzzo, MD, FACS
PURC Executive Director

"PURC has brought focus, synergy, data, a research dynamic, clarity and effectual standard of care criteria to regional urology practices in their prostate cancer diagnostic and treatment components."

-Col. James Williams
Chairman, PPCC

47% Decrease in bone scan when not indicated
84% Decrease in very low risk bone scan
39% Decrease in low risk bone scan

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

Cohort 2
Geisinger • Hershey • Cooper

Cohort 3
UPMC Cancer Institute of NJ

Recruitment of Mid-Atlantic Urology Practices