Annual Patient Safety Conference Promotes Collaboration and Communication

A record breaking 1,244 healthcare professionals from across the state of Maryland and the Mid-Atlantic Region gathered for the 13th Annual Patient Safety Conference at the Hilton Baltimore on March 17. The conference, which focused on inspiration, innovation and collaboration, kicked off with an opening keynote given by David Marx, known as the father of “Just Culture.”

In an engaging and often light-hearted presentation, he laid out the concept of reliable outcomes and the model of “three dice” that improves reliability and how this concept can be applied to improve safety in healthcare. The detailed presentation was well received among the diverse set of professionals that attended this year’s conference.

Skilled presenters offered insights on topics ranging from Ransomware as a Disruptive Force in Healthcare to Making a PACCT to CARE: Leveraging community resources to Educate, Engage and Empower Patients.

“I enjoyed the conference and I particularly appreciate the diversity this conference has from the technical tools to address safety, as well as how to address communication,” said Matthew K. Wynia, MD, who presented at the conference. “While we often recognize communication as a driver of error, we haven’t spent much time to address these errors from a systematic approach. It has been very cool to see people applying tools to the softer side of healthcare,” he added.

The conference closed with a moving keynote titled #It’sWhat’sInYou given by Sue Sheridan and her son, Cal, whose family has been impacted by two diagnostic/patient safety errors on different occasions. Sue Sheridan is a pioneer in patient safety and was most recently the Director of Patient Engagement at the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute. Prior to that, she was the external lead of Patients for Patient Safety at the World Health Organization. We were honored to have Sue and Cal speak at this year’s conference.

A sincere thank you to all our attendees, presenters, and sponsors for making time in their schedules and contributing to the improvement of patient safety. We are proud to bring you one of the leading patient safety events in the entire country. If you were unable to attend, please visit our website to view more highlights from this year’s event.

2017 Minogue Awards Recognize Innovative Approach

The winners were selected by a panel of independent judges who are leaders in the Maryland healthcare community. The awards were presented the evening before our annual conference.

This year’s winner for patient safety innovation was submitted by Susan Mani, MD of Northwest Hospital, part of the LifeBridge Health System. The winning entry was entitled “Accountable Care Unit Model Creates Culture Change of Shared Accountability to Patient Safety and Quality Goals” and was presented to a packed house at the conference by Dr. Mani.

Continued on following page
2017 Minogue Awards cont’d

Mike Sukumar, MD at Adventist HealthCare Shady Grove Medical Center received the Distinguished Achievement in Patient Safety Innovation award. Eight other submissions were named Circle of Honor winners including:

The Evolution of a Successful Sepsis Initiative
Joanne Lipinski-Long, RN: Clinical Educator Emergency/Trauma Services and Ginelle Edmondson: Senior Health Informatics Specialist Western Maryland Health System

Antibiotic Stewardship: A Journey Toward the Triple AIM
Jennifer Bui, Pharm D.: Critical Care Clinical Manager and Faheem Younus, MD: Chief of Infectious Diseases University of Maryland Upper Chesapeake Health

CAUTI Reduction – Practice Change, Proven Success
Kearston Schmidt, RN: University of Maryland St. Joseph Medical Center

Reducing C-Diff Cases on a Gastroenterology Unit
Brittney Huber, RN and Florence Ford, RN Assistant Nurse Manager: GIGU Unit Sinai Hospital of Baltimore

The Impact of Progressive Collaboration and Probiotic Implementation for Inpatients in the Battle Against Hospital Acquired Clostridium Difficile
Laural Farabaugh, MT, SM, ASCP: Infection Preventionist, Northwest Hospital

The Empty Room: Hand Hygiene in the Single Patient Room NICU
Ann Johnson, RN, MSN: Clinical Educator NICU and Pediatrics Mercy Medical Center

Getting to ZERO: A Team-based, Evidence-based Approach to Reducing Necrotizing Enterocolitis in the Shady Grove Medical Center NICU
Nasir Rashid, MD: Neonatologist Adventist HealthCare Shady Grove Medical Center

Antibiotic Use – Getting It Right
Emil Sidawy, Pharm D: System Clinical Pharmacy Lead: Adventist HealthCare

To register, visit MarylandPatientSafety.org

Upcoming Educational Programs

Patient Safety Foundations
When: Thursday, May 4, 2017, 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (Check-in begins at 8:00 a.m.)
Learning Objectives:
• Utilize basic tools to improve patient safety and quality at their own organization
• Describe the key components to set up a unit-based patient safety program
• List strategies to include the patient and family in patient safety

Appreciative Inquiry: A Positive Approach to Patient Safety
When: Thursday, May 18, 2017, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (Check-in begins at 8:00 a.m.)
Learning Objectives:
• Describe and define the four phases of Appreciative Inquiry (Cognitive–knowledge)
• Recognize the importance of “Asking the Right Question” to the generative process of Appreciative Inquiry (Cognitive–comprehension)
• Integrate the principles of Appreciative Inquiry into a group experience of an Appreciative Interview (Affective–application)
• Examine the application of Appreciative Inquiry techniques to enhance the culture of Safety (Cognitive–analysis)

Medication Safety Conference Focused on Opioid Crisis

The 2016 Medication Safety Conference was a great success. The event, which was sold out, drew 238 attendees and focused on the Maryland Opioid Crisis, a major issue facing our state and society at large. The opening keynote was given by Dr. Mishka Terplan, a board-certified doctor in addiction medicine, obstetrics and gynecology. With an opioid epidemic sweeping our state, this conference is one of the many actions Maryland Patient Safety Center has taken to educate on the issue. We look forward to continuing to fight this problem alongside doctors and care practitioners.

Center Welcomes New Board Members

The Maryland Patient Safety Center recently named three new board members, adding to our roster of healthcare, business and civic leaders from across the state. We are grateful to these three new members and our entire board for lending their time and talents to advance our mission.

Kelly Corbi, Vice President of Operations at Northwest Hospital, a LifeBridge Health Facility.

Sen. Katherine Klausmeier, Maryland State Senate – 8th Legislative District.

Michael Yochelson, M.D., Vice President of Medical Affairs and Chief Medical Officer MedStar National Rehabilitation Network.
Collaboratives Make Progress on Key Issues

Reducing Primary Caesarean Sections
Although very preliminary, state data indicates that the Center’s Cesarean Section collaborative is having a positive impact on reducing the rate of first time C-sections. The number of first time, term, single and non-breach births has been reduced by more than 160 and is clearly trending in the intended downward direction. The collaborative group will convene on June 9, 2017 for a summit to discuss success and steps moving forward.

Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome: Improving Care to Improve Outcomes
With the dramatic rise of opioid abuse in the state of Maryland, the Center kicked off a Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) Collaborative aimed at improving care for infants born exposed to opioids on October 7, 2017. Hospital teams are working with recommendations provided by the Center’s NAS care bundle, and commitment and engagement by the 31 Maryland birthing hospitals and the pediatric specialty hospital is high.

Improving Sepsis Mortality
The second cohort of the Sepsis Mortality Collaborative ends this May and indicators show that this collaborative has been successful in reducing sepsis mortality by more than 20 percent. The final Sepsis Summit for both the first and second cohort will be held on June 1, 2017. We are proud to announce that there have been more than 500 lives saved by this initiative.

In the News
The news media continues to take note of our efforts and accomplishments. WMAR TV featured our Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Collaborative and the Center’s Board of Directors Chair, Dr. Jim Rost, in January 2017.

The Daily Record also ran a story previewing our annual conference.

Visit our website to hear our latest podcast!

Dr. Susan Mani and Brian White, President of Northwest Hospital join us for a discussion about Northwest’s winning entry for the 2017 Minogue Award, the hospital’s recent participation in the Center’s certification program and how their team has built a patient-centered culture that promotes innovation and engages staff at all levels.

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Maryland Patient Safety Center
@MDPatientSafety
Message from the President & CEO

While it is gratifying to look back on the success of our 13th Annual Patient Safety Conference, we are always gathering feedback from our attendees, presenters and sponsors to help make next year’s event bigger, better and more meaningful.

And so it goes with many of our programs and initiatives. We are constantly listening to what our members are experiencing in their day-to-day operations so we can tailor our programs to meet their needs and keep them ahead of the curve. We are grateful to those physicians, nurses, administrators, patients and others who help us keep our finger on the pulse of “what’s next” in terms of patient safety trends and programming. We are especially grateful to the members of our Board of Directors, who volunteer their time and talents to help guide the mission of our center.

As you are aware, the opioid crisis continues to be front and center in Maryland public health efforts (as it does in virtually every state in the country). Our state has responded on many fronts to beat back the flames of this tragic trend and our organization intends to continue doing our part. Our Medication Safety Conference late last year shared useful information and best practices and also sparked a discussion on what more we could do to help from a patient safety perspective. We are excited to soon be announcing a new initiative to help battle the opioid crisis in Maryland and beyond. Stay tuned for more details.

Finally, I’d ask that you take some time on your commute or throughout the course of your week to check out our “Get Centered” Podcast on our website. This broadcast is a long-form communications tool that helps us share a wealth of great information about patient safety innovation and the incredible things our members are accomplishing. Listen on your laptop, tablet or smartphone and as always, if you have feedback on the podcast or topics you’d like to see us cover, we’d love to hear from you!

Robert Imhoff
President & CEO