More than 1,400 health care professionals from across the region gathered on April 5th for the 15th Annual Maryland Patient Safety Conference. Each year, the event has expanded and evolved into one of the largest patient safety conferences in North America.

Opening Keynote Focuses on Resiliency
The day opened with an engaging and insightful keynote address from Eileen McDargh, a best-selling author and consultant on the topic of leadership and resiliency in the workplace. Eileen had attendees up and moving early, meeting and interacting with each other. Her presentation was both humorous and emotional as she talked about the importance of energy management and resiliency for health care workers.

Throughout her talk, Eileen focused on practical ways to reduce burnout, including how connecting to co-workers and taking immediate action translates to reduced anxiety and increased energy levels.

Attendees appreciated Eileen’s practical and fun approach.

“The opening keynote was rejuvenating. It’s nice that they’re focusing on a key issue like employee burnout this year. It was a great way to start the day,” said Kathy Karska, RN, from University of Maryland Medical Center.

Full Day of Programs on Key Issues
The breakout sessions included programming on a wide variety of topics curated by Maryland Patient Safety Center leadership to address key issues practitioners are facing.

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Topics ranged from creating joy and resilience in the practice of medicine to decreasing hospital-acquired infections and avoiding pressure wounds.

One very popular session featured Albert Wu, MD from the Johns Hopkins Center for Health
Minogue Award Winners

Atlantic General Hospital has been honored as the recipient of the 2019 Minogue Award for Patient Safety Innovation. The award-winning program was titled, Decreasing Hospital-Acquired C-Diff Infections while Implementing the Early Discharge of Patients.

Levindale Hebrew Geriatric Center and Specialty Hospital has been named the recipient of the Distinguished Achievement in Patient Safety Innovation Award for its program titled, Leading the Patient Safety Charge – Keeping Our Patients Wound Free.

Eight other submissions received Circle of Honor awards:

1. Adventist HealthCare Shady Grove Medical Center: Decreasing Percentage of Postponed Discharges
2. Adventist HealthCare Shady Grove Medical Center: Enhanced Recovery after Colorectal Surgery
3. Johns Hopkins Medicine: Utilizing Information Technology to Prevent Venous Thromboembolism
4. MedStar Health: Signaling Sepsis: Sepsis Collaborative Leverages Dissemination Efforts to Patients and Providers
5. Northwest Hospital – LifeBridge Health: Climbing the Ranks: How the Implementation of the NWH Survival Committee Led to Improved Survival Rates
6. Sinai Hospital of Baltimore – LifeBridge Health: Implementing a Predictive Analytics Tool to Reduce Mortality
7. University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center: Centering Parenting: It Takes a Village
8. University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center: Using the American College of Surgeons’ Sponsored Improving Surgical Care and Recovery Program Opioid Community Education

The day concluded with an emotional and uplifting presentation from Rayshun LaMarr, a finalist on NBC's The Voice. He shared a message of hope and how health care workers helped him through his medical struggles throughout his life. He closed with a joyful vocal performance that left conference goers feeling inspired and rejuvenated.

“There have been so many fantastic speakers today, I’ve really enjoyed it and feel inspired,” said Valerie Canty, BSN, CRRN – Nurse Manager, MedStar National Rehabilitation Network. “I plan to return in the future and have even more colleagues with me. This organization knows what we face in the workplace and it’s so encouraging to be here.”

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Services and Outcomes Research. His talk focused on how quality health care depends on healthy caregivers.

Dr. Wu highlighted the many potential traumas that can arise for health care professionals, but how many are reluctant to ever ask for help. They don’t want to appear ‘weak’ or less capable. As a result, they need a confidential person to speak with—not their supervisors or HR.

He shared some of the solutions that are available through the RISE program at Johns Hopkins and the Maryland Patient Safety Center’s Caring for the Caregiver program.

“It was great to hear Dr. Wu share this important information,” said Gladys Bourne Carter from Carroll Hospital Center. “We need to keep in mind this could happen to anyone and health care workers shouldn’t be alienated when adverse events occur. As a social worker, I am thrilled to learn about these programs and how they can help providers cope and improve their performance.”

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Maryland Earns First Ever State of Excellence in Education and Training Award for Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome from VON

The Maryland Patient Safety Center is proud to share that the Vermont Oxford Network (VON) has awarded the first “State of Excellence in Education and Training for Infants and Families Affected by Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome” designation to the state of Maryland and the Maryland Patient Safety Center.

As a global leader in data-driven quality improvement for newborn care, VON leads multi-center quality improvement collaboratives and provides resources to help interdisciplinary teams improve on the most critical and complex challenges facing newborn caregivers.

The award recognizes that at least 85 percent of the multidisciplinary care teams participating in the MPSC’s “Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Collaborative: Improving Care to Improve Outcomes” had 85% of their enrolled staff and provides complete all 18 of the VON training modules on NAS.

Maryland Patient Safety Center partnered with VON to provide 32 hospitals with universal training designed to standardize care policies. The collaborative approach to universal training included rapid-cycle distribution of current evidence-based practices to the entire interdisciplinary workforce engaged in caring for substance-exposed infants and families. While more than 250 centers nationwide have completed VON’s universal training for NAS, Maryland is the first statewide collaborative to achieve the Excellence in Education and Training distinction.
Announcing Two New Center Collaboratives

Maryland Patient Safety Center
Safe Infant Sleep Project

The Center has invited all birthing hospitals in Maryland as well as Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital to participate in the Safe Infant Sleep Project focused on reducing preventable sleep-related infant deaths in our state. The collaborative began in March 2019 and will run through February 2021.

In Maryland, an average of 55 sleep-related infant deaths occur every year. That is more than one infant dying every week in Maryland from a largely preventable cause. These cases are usually referred to now as Sudden Unexpected Infant Deaths (SUIDS), but cases still classified as SIDS are included in this number. Most of these deaths could have potentially been prevented if safe sleep practices were followed.

Key components of a safe sleep environment are placing infants to sleep alone, on their backs, on a firm sleep surface with no soft objects, and in a smoke-free environment. Sleep-related deaths are the third leading cause of all deaths in the first year of life (after prematurity and congenital anomalies).

By implementing processes and sharing resources and best practices among the participating facilities, Maryland expects to significantly reduce the number of sleep-related infant deaths.

Obstetric Care of Women with Opioid Use Disorder Collaborative

In February 2019, the center joined a multi-state collaborative on Obstetric Care for Women with Opioid Use Disorder, in collaboration with the Alliance for Innovation in Maternal Health (AIM).

The Center will coordinate activities in Maryland utilizing the AIM bundle of best practices. The collaborative will run for two years – through January 2021. Twenty-nine Maryland birthing hospitals have elected to participate.

The AIM bundle reflects emerging scientific, clinical and patient safety advances and does not dictate a specific course of treatment or procedure to be followed.

By implementing processes and sharing resources and best practices among the participating states, Maryland expects to improve the care for women with OUD, reduce associated maternal mortality, improve the overall maternal morbidity rate and decrease the adverse effects to exposed infants.

Lorraine Milio, MD, Medical Director at the Center for Addictions and Pregnancy in Baltimore, serves as the collaborative subject matter expert.
Don’t Miss Our OB Hemorrhage Educational Program

OB Hemorrhage – Simulation Workshop

Friday, June 7 or Friday, June 21, 2019, 8:00am–3:30pm
Registration and Continental Breakfast begin at 8:00 am.
Training will begin at 8:30 am. A lunch break is scheduled.

Maryland Patient Safety Center
Building 1
6820 Deerpath Road
Elkridge, Maryland 21075

Program Fee
Non-members: $75
Maryland Patient Safety Center members: $75

Program Overview
The Maryland Patient Safety Center will be offering a simulation workshop on conducting effective simulations and drills. The workshop will focus on helping participants run in situ simulations (i.e. simulations on actual L&D and postpartum units) to prepare their teams for obstetrical hemorrhage emergencies. Research demonstrates that simulation can improve the ability of teams in high-stress environments to respond appropriately to obstetric emergencies such as hemorrhage.

This workshop will apply lessons learned by PRONTO International, an organization that has conducted thousands of simulation training sessions all over the globe that have resulted in measurable improvements in participant ability to respond to emergencies and improved perinatal outcomes in a wide range of settings. During the workshop, one of the founders of PRONTO will help participants learn evidenced based strategies for running efficient and effective low-cost simulations without the need for simulation centers or expensive mannequins or trainers. Activities will be designed to meet the needs of trainers at all levels of expertise, from those just beginning to use simulation, to those who have already been running simulation but want the opportunity to practice or expand their skill set. There will be ample opportunity for hands-on practice. This will also be a great opportunity to meet others who are running simulations at their hospitals and share tips, scenarios and stories. The workshop will be repeated based on demand.

Presenter
Jenifer Fahey, MSN, MSPH, CNM, FACNM
Jenifer Fahey completed her Master of Science in Public Health at Harvard University and her Midwifery training at Yale. She is currently a PhD candidate at University of Maryland School of Public Health in their Maternal and Child Health Program. She is an Assistant Professor at the University of Maryland School of Medicine where she has worked for 18 years and where she is the Director of the Midwifery Division and works as a full-scope midwife. This year she has also taken on the role of OB Patient Safety Officer. She is co-founder of PRONTO International, an NGO that provides simulation-based obstetric emergency training globally for which she now serves as a founding board member. She co-founded a center for obstetric and neonatal simulation at the University of Maryland Medical Center, which has provided simulation-based training to more than 4,000 providers. She has conducted numerous workshops on simulation-based training at annual meetings for ACOG, ACNM, and the Society for Simulation in Healthcare. For the last 10 years she has conducted biennial full day simulation-based training for first responders throughout Maryland and numerous train-the-trainer courses and consultations for those wanting to start simulation-based training in their institutions.

To register: Contact Bonnie DiPietro at bdipietro@marylandpatientsafety.org or 410.540.5095
Collaboratives Making an Impact in Perinatal and Neonatal Care

PRIMARY C-SECTION REDUCTION
In October of 2016, the Center began a two-year long Primary C-Section Reduction Collaborative, through which participating hospitals would adopt bundles of best practices developed by the Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM).

The goal was to decrease the rate of first time C-Sections in low risk pregnancies.

The Center is pleased to recognize the hospitals that submitted evidence of adoption of implementation of the AIM bundles. Ten (10) of the 31 birthing hospitals in Maryland received a Banner of Excellence for their achievements throughout the collaborative.

NEONATAL ABSTINENCE SYNDROME
In October of 2016 the Center kicked off a state-wide multi-facility collaborative to improve the care provided to newborns experiencing drug withdrawal from exposure in utero, known as Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS).

Hospitals were provided with a bundle of best practices from the Maryland Patient Safety Center that were recommended for the care of these infants.

Over the past two years the hospitals have worked on implementing these recommendations and were provided with education on the care of infants with NAS and their mothers and families, sample protocols and policies, and education materials for staff and families were shared. MPSC recognized 18 of the 32 birthing hospitals in Maryland with a Banner of Excellence for care of infants with NAS.

RESULTS RECOGNIZED AROUND THE COUNTRY
As a result of the successes shown through the two recently completed collaboratives, the Maryland Patient Safety Center was invited to present at a variety of events around the country.

**Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Collaborative**
- Vermont Oxford Network Annual Quality Congress, Chicago, IL – September 2018
- National Network of Perinatal Quality Collaboratives (NNPQC), Atlanta, GA – November 2018
- MedNax Annual NEO Conference, Orlando, FL – February 2019
- Medela Webinar – April 2019

**Primary C-Section Reduction Collaborative**
- AIM State Leader’s Meeting, Arlington, VA – August 2018
- National Network of Perinatal Quality Collaboratives (NNPQC), Atlanta, GA – November 2018
- AWHONN Maternal Morbidity and Mortality Regional DMV Conference, Rockville, MD – April 2019

**OUR RESULTS**

**Decrease in rate of NTSV (first time) c-sections in 20 of the 31 (65%) participating hospitals**

**Decreased LOS for infants treated pharmacologically for NAS by 3 days**

**Decreased transfers of NAS infants out of birth hospital by 50%**

**Instrumental in decreasing early Elective Deliveries to less than 2% in participating hospitals**
Team members from the Maryland Patient Safety Center travelled to Memphis, TN to work with the team at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital on training for our Caring for the Caregiver Program. St. Jude is now one of 15 hospitals outside of the state of Maryland to adopt the Caring for the Caregiver Program, and the MPSC was honored to partner with this internationally recognized institution.
Message from the President & CEO

Thank you to the more than 1,400 health care professionals, presenters and especially our sponsors who helped make our 15th Annual Patient Safety Conference a major success. I also wish to thank the dedicated staff of the Maryland Patient Safety Center who made it all possible.

The theme of Passion & Purpose resonated with our presenters and attendees and there was a strong positive energy and enthusiasm surrounding the day’s events. It has been gratifying to see this conference evolve and expand over the past several years.

It is with mixed emotions that I share with you that my tenure as President & CEO of the Maryland Patient Safety Center is coming to a close. I have accepted the position of President for the Hospital Quality Initiative at the California Association of Hospitals and Health Systems. I will begin my work there in June.

While I am looking forward to new challenges and a move to the west coast, it is difficult to leave MPSC and my colleagues. I will greatly miss working with them, our outstanding board of directors and the talented and passionate health care professionals in Maryland from our member institutions. I can’t thank you all enough for your support and dedication during my time here.

The last seven years have been extremely fulfilling and exciting—some of the best years of my professional career. The measurable advancements in patient safety and quality made by hospitals and health care organizations through Maryland Patient Safety Center programming have greatly surpassed my expectations.

It has truly been an honor and a pleasure to work with and learn from all of you.

The work of the center will continue in earnest and I trust even greater success lies ahead for this organization as the team continues on its quest to make health care in Maryland the safest in the nation.

All the best.

Robert Imhoff
President & CEO