More than 1,200 Healthcare Professionals Gather for the 12th Annual Patient Safety Conference

Patient Safety: The Core of Care was the theme of this year’s annual conference. Healthcare professionals from around the region gathered at the Hilton Baltimore on March 18 to learn more about the most pressing patient safety issues and the impact they have on the delivery of quality care.

Over the years, the conference has continued to grow in content and attendance, with more than 1,200 healthcare professionals from 81 organizations. Joan Lunden, former host of Good Morning America and New York Times best-selling author, kicked off the event by sharing her personal experience of being diagnosed with Stage 2 Triple Negative breast cancer and the life-changing journey that followed.

The candid and honest patient perspective she shared regarding her treatment, as well as the thousands of people who contacted her and shared their stories, led to an engaging Q&A following her presentation. Her message clearly resonated with conference attendees.

“As with years past, the conference is an amazing blend of networking and an opportunity to see what other organizations in Maryland are doing to improve healthcare quality and patient safety,” said Karen Tivigg, Director of Care Coordination and Integration at Calvert Memorial Hospital. “But it’s also great to hear from presenters that come from outside the state, specifically keynote speakers, who bring new, fresh ideas to the conference.”

J. Bryan Sexton, PhD, Associate Professor and Director from the Duke Patient Safety Center, closed the conference with a high-energy and eye-opening outlook on the stress healthcare providers experience. His presentation, Thriving vs. Surviving During Times of Change: The Science of Enhancing Resilience, provided at-
Updates & Recruiting Info on Our Collaboratives

The collaboratives MPSC has established over the past decade have been key drivers of measurable success in improving patient safety in Maryland and beyond. The following new collaboratives are recruiting participants.

REDUCING FIRST TIME C-SECTIONS

On the heels of our success in reducing early elective deliveries MPSC established a new collaborative to reduce first time Caesarean sections (C-sections). The rate of C-sections in Maryland is about 34%, slightly higher than the national average. While a C-section is appropriate in some situations, it does increase risks to the mother and the infant. Women who have a C-section are 90% more likely to have a C-section with subsequent pregnancies. Research has shown that decreasing the rate of first time C-sections can have a significant impact on decreasing the overall C-section rate.

In order to address this issue, our collaborative has partnered with the Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM) to promote culture change and activities that physicians, midwives and labor and delivery nurses can support to promote change in their birthing hospitals. MPSC is currently recruiting birthing hospitals for this collaborative.

CLEAN COLLABORATIVE OFF TO A GREAT START

The Clean Collaborative kickoff was held March 9 for acute care, long term care and ambulatory surgery centers. This collaborative is focused on decreasing surface contaminants in healthcare facilities with an overall goal of reducing healthcare associated infections. To date we have 28 organizations participating and will continue recruitment through May 6.

The Maryland Patient Safety Center will provide each facility that participates in the Clean Collaborative with an ATP Monitoring Validation System including the ATP Instrument and the ATP Data Collection Software ($2,000 value), in collaboration with the Clean Collaborative sole sponsor ACME Paper & Supply (ACME). Each facility participating in the Clean Collaborative will be responsible for purchasing the ATP sampling test strips required for collecting samples through the Clean Collaborative sole sponsor at a discounted rate.

To learn more about any of these outstanding initiatives or to join, please contact Bonnie DiPietro at bdipietro@marylandpatientsafety.org

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

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tendees with several action items to put into practice in their own organizations.

“This was the first time I had attended the MPSC conference. It was extremely informative. I enjoyed both keynote presentations and there were many choices for breakout sessions which allowed me to choose the most relevant content for my practice area,” said Maria Cvach, Director of Policy Management and Integration at Johns Hopkins Health System. “All of the sessions I attended were interesting and well done.”

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. If you were unable to attend, please visit our website to view more highlights from this year’s event.
In The News

In conjunction with Patient Safety Week and the annual conference in March, MPSC President & CEO Robert Imhoff made a number of media appearances, including stopping by the Fox 45 Morning Show (below, left) and taking part in a half hour segment on Urban Health Beat on WEEA FM Radio (below, right). Robert shared details on the mission of the Center as well as ways the general public can be more informed and safer consumers of healthcare services.

Stay Connected!

You can find the Maryland Patient Safety Center on both Facebook and Twitter. We’ll keep you posted on upcoming educational trainings and programs, news on patient safety from Maryland and across the country, as well as highlight recent events and conferences, including presentations and photos from the 12th Annual Patient Safety Conference.

Emily Mayes Joins Team as Business Development Manager

Early this spring, Emily Mayes was named Business Development Manager for the Center. Emily has a strong background in both healthcare and development and prior to joining our team held several positions with the Huntsville Hospital Foundation in Huntsville, Alabama, including Director of Donor Relations.

Upcoming Educational Programs

Ready to learn the most valuable TeamSTEPPS™ tools and how to effectively use them in your organization? Join us on Tuesday, May 24, 2016 and actively participate in the use of the TeamSTEPPS™ tools to ensure you have a good understanding of both the concept and the technique.

The program fee is waived for MPSC members.

To register, please visit www.marylandpatientsafety.org
Message from the President & CEO

Spring is a time of new beginnings and as the Maryland Patient Safety Center plans and prepares for the start of a new fiscal year in July, we have a number of new initiatives underway, including three new study groups that will examine some critical issues:

- Errors in Diagnosis
- Medication Reconciliation
- Patient Family Centered Care (Visiting hours, hourly nurse rounding and multi-disciplinary rounding)

Look for more information on these and other programs in the coming weeks.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in our 12th Annual Patient Safety Conference. From the sponsors to the presenters, our staff and board members that made the event possible, please know your support and hard work are recognized and appreciated. It has been exciting to see the conference continue to expand and we are already planning for the 13th Annual Conference in 2017.

As the presentations and discussions they facilitated at the conference underscored, the issue of patient safety continues to evolve and offer new challenges that require thoughtful, innovative solutions. We are grateful to our active membership that has helped develop and enact solutions that are making a positive impact on patient safety in Maryland and across the country.

As always, I value and welcome your feedback and ideas via phone call, email, or social media. I look forward to hearing from you and thank you for your continued support.

Robert Imhoff
President & CEO