

NCPS Update: June 2022

A Message from the Executive Director

Emily Barr, OTD, MBA, OTR/L, BCG

I am thrilled to be writing June's Executive Director message as I complete my first month with NCPS. My name is Emily Barr, and I am honored to be serving as the new Executive Director. My clinical background includes working primarily with the older adult population, particularly with individuals experiencing cognitive impairment. I've practiced in various settings such as post-acute rehabilitation, skilled-nursing, and long-term care. Most recently, I worked in the higher education realm, teaching occupational therapy students at both the masters and doctorate levels. I look forward to collaborating with the members of NCPS to continue the dedicated work of enhancing patient safety in the state of Nebraska. I also wish to express my sincerest gratitude to the current and outgoing members of the NCPS team and Board of Directors for their warm welcome and support during this transition.



As we celebrated Memorial Day and the unofficial kickoff to summer, I want to draw your attention to a few observances for the month of June. First, we recognize Alzheimer's & Brain Awareness Month. I encourage organizations to evaluate their cognitive care protocols and how they affect the overall safety of individuals experiencing dementia or other cognitive impairments, such as through fall rates and participation in activities of daily living.

Second, the National Safety Council (NSC) recognizes June as National Safety Month, an annual observance focusing on keeping each other safe in the workplace. This year, the NSC is focusing each week of June on a different workplace concern including musculoskeletal disorders, workplace impairment, injury prevention, and lastly, slips, trips and falls. Please consider visiting the [National Safety Council website](#) to learn more about how your organizations can promote workplace safety.

Lastly, LGBTQ+ Pride Month is recognized every June in commemoration of the 1969 Stonewall Uprising. As health care leaders, it is important to acknowledge the work that needs to be done in order to overcome health disparities within the LGBTQ+ community to promote safe and equitable care.

Thank you for your partnership and continued efforts to improve patient safety. I look forward to carrying on the important work of NCPS.

NCPS Shared Learning Resources

The NCPS learning resource this month is a **Patient Safety Alert for Cautery Burns and OR Fires**. As noted in the alert, these events are rare and yet can produce devastating results to patients. Recently we have had several reported and so want to offer this document as a reminder of the steps/considerations that should be taken to reduce the likelihood of such an event in any setting where the three items of the fire triangle (ignition source, fuel, and an oxidizer) are present. The safety alert may be found [here](#) as well as on the NCPS website within our members only [portal](#).

NCPS Member Update - What You Need to Know

Congratulations to NCPS Members Earning Leapfrog Grade A (Spring 2022)

- Bryan East Campus – Lincoln
- Bryan West Campus – Lincoln
- Great Plains Health – North Platte
- Kearney Regional Medical Center - Kearney

Chartis Center for Rural Health's 20 Top Critical Access Hospitals

Congratulations to Boone County Health Center (Albion) for earning a place in Chartis Center for Rural Health's list of 20 Top Critical Access Hospitals. The list was determined by results of their performance index which includes eight pillars of performance: inpatient market share, outpatient market share, quality, outcomes, patient perspective, cost, charge and finance.

Learning Opportunities for NCPS Members

Webinar: Tackling healthcare worker burnout, stress, and anxiety

The pandemic has taken an immense toll on healthcare workers' emotional and mental health. A Medscape survey found forty-seven percent of physicians reporting feeling burned out last year, up from 42% in 2020. A separate poll from the American Nurses Association found 46% of nurses under the age of 35 reporting they are not emotionally healthy.

This free Becker's Healthcare sponsored webinar is a discussion about addressing healthcare worker behavioral health, including physician/employee burnout, stress, and anxiety. Jason Youngblood, behavioral strategy director and clinical leader at Cigna, will also share examples of health systems that have successfully implemented tools to combat these challenges. Audience questions will be welcomed.

Register [here](#) for the Thursday, June 16th 12pm-1pm webinar.

Webinar: Updates to the Clinical Management of Mild Chronic Hypertension in Obstetrical Patients

The Nebraska Perinatal Quality Improvement Collaborative (NPQIC) and NCPS are co-hosting a webinar that will inform attendees of recent changes made to the best practices for managing mild chronic hypertension in pregnant patients based on the CHAP Project (Chronic Hypertension and Pregnancy Project). The CHAP Project was a large, multicenter, randomized trial whose primary aim was to evaluate the benefits and harms of pharmacologic treatment of mild chronic hypertension in pregnancy. Dr. Sean Kenney, a Maternal Fetal Medicine Specialist at Lincoln, Nebraska's Bryan Health Center for Maternal and Fetal Care will be our speaker. CME for physicians and physician assistants as well as CEUs for nursing will be available for this program.

Register [here](#) for the July 14th 1pm webinar.

Patient Safety Resources

Deadly Assaults on Healthcare Workers

The recent physical attacks on medical personnel (i.e. Tulsa, OK June 1st; Encino, CA June 3rd) are of great concern to all healthcare workers in all healthcare setting. They have prompted organizations to review their existing policies, provide additional training, and in some settings to hire additional security personnel. Here is a listing of resources to address this escalating problem:

- American Hospital Association [Case Study: Security Measures Elevated at Norton Children's Hospital | AHA](#)
- The Joint Commission [Webinar of Three Different Workplace Violence Prevention Programs](#)
- Arnetz, J. The joint commission's new and revised workplace violence prevention standards for hospitals: a major step forward toward improved quality and safety (2022) found [here](#).

Checklists to Reduce Diagnostic Error

Checklists are used to improve patient outcomes in a wide variety of clinical settings and processes. This review applied the Systems Engineering Initiative for Patient Safety 2.0 (SEIPS 2.0) human factors framework to 25 diagnostic checklists. Checklists were characterized within the three primary components (work systems, processes, and outcomes) and subcomponents. Checklists addressing the Task subcomponent were associated with a reduction in diagnostic errors. Several subcomponents were not addressed (e.g., External Environment, Organization) and present an opportunity for future research. The review may be found [here](#).

CBS News Nightline Interview with RaDonda Vaught

After the announcement of RaDonda's three-year supervised probation sentence for the medication error she made which resulted in a patient's death, she spoke out for the first time in an interview with Nightline. She talks about the systemic errors and her own failure that led to this event. She also expresses concern that the legal action taken against her has a potential negative impact to patient safety if it results in medical personnel being fearful to report errors they make. The interview may be found [here](#).

COVID-19 Resources

American Heart Association's Oxygenation and Ventilation of COVID-19 Patients

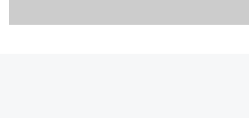
The ongoing ventilation management of COVID-19 patients has resulted in healthcare providers being called on to assist in critical care roles that are beyond their routine daily activities. The materials in this [toolkit](#) are provided as quick resources and refreshers for providers in such situations. The AHA does note that it still advocates for advanced airways be inserted and managed by the most experience members of the clinical team. The toolkit may also be found at: <https://cpr.heart.org/en/resources/coronavirus-covid19-resources-for-cpr-training/oxygenation-and-ventilation-of-covid-19-patients>

Mark Rupp, MD, Post-COVID-19 Conditions and Prevention Via Vaccination

Dr. Rupp, Professor & Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases at UNMC, provides a review of a recent MMWR publication (May 27, 2022) as well as studies of the effectiveness of vaccination against long COVID. Information included in this video once again show that vaccination is the best defense against COVID. The presentation may be found [here](#).

For more information about NCPS and the services we offer, please contact Carla Snyder MT(ASCP)SBB, MHA, Patient Safety Program Director at: carlasnyder@unmc.edu

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