



Community Medical Foundation for Patient Safety

The Community of Competence™ and Foundation for Life

Leadership, vision, community, knowledge, innovations, compassion, values, and competency— Essential qualities of the 21st Century healthcare system and organization.

As an active learning organization, we strongly embody these qualities and are leading patient safety research and education to build knowledge and greater capacity to learn and to identify the best healthcare practices. Our purpose is to help build a better healthcare system that provides quality, safe, holistic, comprehensive and humane health care.

Our philosophy is founded on building an active community based on competence, an active community consisting of members with leadership, vision, knowledge, compassion, and values — The Community of Competence™ and Foundation for Life.

In our research endeavors, we lead and collaborate with other researchers on local and national studies and data collection. Our notable projects include the creation of the first and only National Unused and Expired Medicines Registry and the publication of the official National Directory of Drug Take-Back and Disposal Programs. We surveyed patient safety programs and organizations and created the National Patient Safety Community to help individuals and organizations network through our National Patient Safety Directory. Additionally, we published the first Dictionary of Patient Safety to support a common language in the emerging field of patient safety research.

In trauma research, we evaluated and made recommendations for improvement of the U.S. military's Joint Theater Trauma Registry (JTTR) through the use of modern technology and appropriate methods of data collection and management. Currently, our research focus is on the accuracy and reliability of diagnosing traumatic brain injury. Our Community of Competence™ is testing and evaluating a promising new technology for a noninvasive, early detection and screening of mild traumatic brain injury.

By working directly with physicians, nurses, other healthcare professionals, patients, and families, we strive to promote the ideals of a true patient-centered healthcare model that respects and values the best interest of the patient. Therefore, our educational team has developed series of Patient Safety Checklists to facilitate open, effective communication between care providers and patients. These Checklists are designed to engage and empower individuals to minimize or prevent the risk of an adverse medical event.

Our staff members are frequent invited speakers at local, regional and national meetings and conferences as content experts for various health-related topics, such as adherence to prescription medicines among seniors and the public health and environmental impact of wasted medicines. We often consult with representatives of city, county, and federal agencies, such as the Drug Enforcement Administration, Food and Drug Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Defense, and Department of Health and Human Services, on a wide range of topics based on our research projects and findings.