



# S.A.F.E.R. Initiative Update

November 16, 2017



# Welcome

# S.A.F.E.R. Initiative

- Focused on resiliency
- Support and services for personal, organizational, community and patient safety
- Education, training, tools and technical assistance
  - Workplace and community violence
  - Emergency preparedness
  - Quality of care
  - Population/community health
  - Opioid crisis

# S.A.F.E.R. Aims to Provide Resources Under Five Pillars

Safety Programs

Approaches to Safe Care

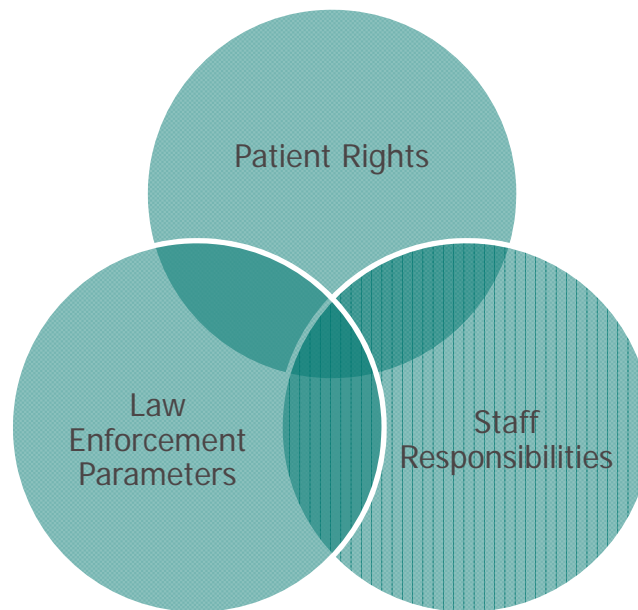
Facts to Inform Decision-Making

Educational Programming

Regulatory Requirements

# Initial Focus

Intersection of rights and responsibilities between the hospital, staff, patients and law enforcement officials in regulated environment



# Goal

Synthesize concerns surrounding violence, criminal behavior, behavioral health and interactions with law enforcement to provide hospital policy makers and front-line staff with education, training and technical tools to manage complex and stressful situations in a safe, legally compliant manner

# Today's Objectives

- Review MHA activities and initiatives to date
- Summarize listening tour findings
- Outline forthcoming education, resources and partnership engagement

# Advocacy



September 25, 2017

Thomas E. Price, M.D.  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Health and  
Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20201

Seema Verma  
Administrator  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
U.S. Department of Health and  
Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20201

Robert Kadlec, M.D.  
Assistant Secretary for Preparedness  
and Response  
U.S. Department of Health and  
Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20201

Elinore F. McCance-Katz, M.D., Ph.D.  
Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and  
Substance Use  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health  
Services Administration  
U.S. Department of Health and  
Human Services  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Secretary Price, Administrator Verma, Secretary Kadlec and Secretary McCance-Katz:

We are writing to share our states' experiences with workplace violence in hospitals and request an ongoing review of programs within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to protect dedicated health care workers.



Herb B. Kuhn  
President and CEO  
P.O. Box 60  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

October 18, 2017

The Honorable Eric Greitens  
Governor of Missouri  
Missouri State Capitol  
201 West Capitol Avenue  
Jefferson City, MO 65101-1556

Dear Governor Greitens:

On behalf of the Missouri Hospital Association's 145 member hospitals and more than 150,000 employees, I am writing to ask for your help and support to provide a more secure workplace for Missouri's physicians, nurses and other staff who provide lifesaving care to patients 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

The incidence of workplace violence has become commonplace in communities of all sizes, demographic and socioeconomic compositions. Regrettably, health care facilities are no exception to this growing problem that represents a significant threat to employee safety and patient care.

The current challenges of violence are not limited to physicians, nurses or other health care staff — but also patients and visitors. Hospital executives in our state tell us that a decade ago, they would receive weekly reports of violent incidents in their hospitals, but now receive daily reports of incidents where staff are verbally abused, hit, kicked, shoved or beaten. Hospital staff are demanding action. The growing challenges of the opioid epidemic, limited access to mental



# Listening Tour

# Listening Tour Objectives

## Rank Issues

- Impact to operations
- Those requiring or benefiting from technical support

## Identify Resources

- Validate policies for compliance
- Front-line education topics

## Demographics

- Population density
- Hospital size
- Executive or front-line staff
- Clinical or operational, as defined by current role

# Listening Tour Participants

- August 30 – Strategic Quality Advisory Committee
- September 6 – What's Up Wednesday Quality Briefing
- September 7 – Psychiatric Network
- September 26 – MSHHRA (HR professionals)
- September 29 – Physician's Executive Group
- October 5 – Workplace Violence Reduction Immersion Project Huddle (Target: Security)
- October 12 – Emergency Preparedness and Safety Conference
- October 18 – St. Louis Workforce Advisory Committee
- Fall District Council meetings

## Findings: Demographics

- 225 participants
- Community: 60 percent rural
- Hospital size: equal distribution
- Organizational structure: equal distribution
- Position by function: 75 percent operational

# Identified Threats in Ranked Order

1. Behavioral health patient boarding in non-psychiatric facilities (more prevalent in rural settings)
2. Violent patient encounters
3. Law enforcement drop-offs that create holding and/or elopement concerns
4. Search and confiscation of narcotics
5. Search and confiscation of weapons
6. Law enforcement presence to execute warrants of patients/visitors on site

# Policy Awareness

- Stronger confidence in understanding of behavioral health and violent patient encounter policies
- Policies pertaining to narcotics, weapons, warrants and elopement had equal distribution of responses, to include “no policy”
- Overwhelming “strong” response to ranking of working relationship with law enforcement
- Uncertainty pertaining to hospitals reporting patients to law enforcement for assault to staff

# Thematic Outcomes

- Identification and dissemination of “best-practice” policies related to:
  - Warrantless blood draws
  - Use of security/law enforcement worn body cameras
  - Appropriate and permissible use of TASERs (Thomas A. Swift’s Electric Rifle)
  - Reporting violent incidents to law enforcement
- Development of criteria to evaluate different de-escalation training programs

# Thematic Outcomes

- Development of education and training related to:
  - De-escalation programs for different patient and visitor profiles
  - Management of substance-related encounters with patients and their visitors
  - Prevention of sexual violence against health care employees
  - Incorporating security personnel into the care team
- Data to monitor trends and evaluate initiatives



# Proposed Approach

## Program Development

- Criteria to evaluate safety programs
- Policy repository
- Resources to integrate and empower security personnel
- Data collection for benchmarking of de-escalation programs

## Education

- Webinars
- Presentations to targeted groups
- On-demand education for front-line staff

## Collaboration

- Regional meetings with law enforcement for shared education
- Engage with statewide public safety leaders
- Multi-disciplinary summit

# Warrantless Blood Draws

- [Issue brief](#) made available fall 2017
- MHI Warrantless Blood Draw webinar recording available on [mhanet.com](http://mhanet.com)
- Policy validation

# Behavioral Health

- Best practices
  - Behavioral Emergency Response Teams
  - Department of Mental Health – Crisis Intervention Training Councils
  - Policy validation
- 9th Annual Behavioral Health Conference – April 19-20, 2018

# Narcotics and Weapons

- Despite lower ranking on threat scale, confidence in understanding policy was mixed
- Develop consistent, validated policies for document repository
- Provide education using case studies

# Hospital Security Programs

# Environmental Scan

- 50 percent (66 hospitals) reported internal violence in their top three risks on hazard vulnerability analysis
- 65 percent (84 hospitals) employ security workforce as hospital personnel
- 28 percent (36 hospitals) provided dedicated security in the ED 24/7
- 36 percent (47 hospitals) have armed security officers
  - 40 percent (24) firearm
  - 48 percent (29) TASER
  - 31 percent (19) pepper spray
  - 42 percent (26) baton
- 86 percent (111 hospitals) don't use metal detectors

# Hospital Security

- Education and policy development
  - Body cameras in the care setting
  - Use of TASERs
  - Professional presence – uniforms
  - Crisis Intervention Training

# De-escalation Training

- 82 percent (106 hospitals) have a formal de-escalation program
  - CPI
  - STARR
  - Safe Approach
  - SMART
- Provide action steps for hospitals to launch and/or evaluate existing safety and security program, regardless of vendor-based product
- Evaluate on-demand, generic de-escalation training for hospitals without formal programs



# Partnership Engagement

- Pending pilot initiative with St. Louis County to accelerate education for law enforcement
- Request to Gov. Greitens for a multi-disciplinary action summit
- Opportunity to facilitate health and medical track of 2018 All-Hazards SEMA Conference — August 21-24 (incorporating violence/opioids)

## Next Steps

- Advocate for balance and alignment of regulations and enforcement between the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and CMS
- Work with Missouri state officials to partner with emergency medical services and law enforcement to coordinate care and support a “zero tolerance” environment
- Identify and facilitate adoption of “best practice” policies, procedures and education to protect staff and mitigate violent incidents

# Upcoming Educational Opportunity

## Promoting Safe Environments of Care Webinar

Brian Uridge, MPA, CPP

11:00 a.m., December 14, 2017

*Back by popular demand,  
following a keynote presentation delivered at  
MHA's Emergency Preparedness and Safety Conference*

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