



Commitment to Patient/Workforce Safety
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Perspective

Health Care Safety during the Pandemic and Beyond — Building a System That Ensures Resilience

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- Multiple patient-safety metrics deteriorated since the beginning of pandemic,^{[2-4](#)}
- Central-line–associated bloodstream infections had decreased by 31% in the 5 years preceding pandemic; nearly reversed by 28% increase in the second quarter of 2020 (as compared with the second quarter of 2019).^{[3](#)}
- Increases in catheter-associated urinary tract infections, ventilator-associated events, and methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteremia.
- Rates of falls causing major injury increased by 17.4% and rates of pressure ulcers increase by 41.8% during the second quarter of 2020

Decline in Patient Safety - Impact

Highlighted Fragility of Healthcare Systems

- Disparities brought into focus
 - Disproportionate COVID-19 mortality in vulnerable communities
 - High COVID-19 mortality in nursing facilities
 - Increased need for Culturally, Linguistically and Appropriate Services
 - Complications Reporting Data and Coordinating Timely Technical Assistance
- Weakened a workforce
 - Surge in workplace violence
 - Shortage of staff
 - Rapid rise of widespread use workforce agencies

Demonstrated Need for Resilient Framework Rooted in Safety

Engagement with Patient Safety Alliance – Opportunities to Promote Safety through CMS levers

- Support Healthcare Governance and Leadership
- Provide Direct Assistance and Training (QIO)
- Improve Quality Measures and Timely, Seamless Data
- Support safety in value based programs and payments
- Keep waivers that promote innovation, maintain or improve quality, advance health equity, and expand access to care

CMS Safety Commitment

- Reduce Harm
- Protect Vulnerable Populations
- Pledge Non-negotiable, Fundamental Safe Care for all individuals
- Foster Safe and stable workforce

Partner with you!