Commitment to Patient/Workforce Safety
Jonathan Blum, Principal Deputy Administrator & Chief Operating Officer
Multiple patient-safety metrics deteriorated since the beginning of pandemic.\textsuperscript{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).\textsuperscript{3}

Increases in catheter-associated urinary tract infections, ventilator-associated events, and methicillin-resistant \textit{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!