



Canadian  
Patient  
Safety  
Institute

Institut  
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pour la sécurité  
des patients

# The Safety Competencies

*Enhancing Patient Safety Across the  
Health Professions*

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# The Safety Competencies

Enhancing Patient Safety Across the Health Professions

- Patient safety is a critical aspect of quality health care
- *...The reduction and mitigation of unsafe acts within the health-care system, as well as through the use of best practices shown to lead to optimal patient outcomes...*



## Rationale

- No widely accepted approach to incorporate patient safety practices into the education of health professionals
- The Safety Competencies framework also provides a set of core domains of abilities for all health professionals to incorporate into their professional development
- By enhancing the education of health professionals, the Safety Competencies will enhance patient care



# Development Process

## Background work

- Education and Professional Development Advisory Committee study session – October 2006
- Environmental scan of HPE curricula in Canada
- Literature review of patient safety curricula

## Initial review

- Thematic analysis by CPSI Steering Committee
- Stakeholder consultation (>500 organizations)



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## Development Process - continued

### Interprofessional Steering Committee

- Themes → Identification of 7 Domains initially

### Domain Working Groups

- Recruitment of interprofessional WG members (>75)
- Task: identify essential abilities in each Domain



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## Development Process - continued

### Interprofessional Consensus Conference

- Iterative revisions by all working groups

### Expert Panel

- Revisions (down to 6 Domains)
- Editing
- Validation / Final consensus with WG members

### CPSI Board approval of domain draft – June 2008

### Wide Consultation on final selection of Domains

- More validation (>500 organizations)



## Proposed Framework, May 2008

**Domain 1: Contribute to a Culture of Patient Safety**

**Domain 2: Work in Teams for Patient Safety**

**Domain 3: Communicate Effectively for Patient Safety**

**Domain 4: Manage Safety Risk**

**Domain 5: Optimize Human and Environmental  
Factors**

**Domain 6: Recognize, Respond & Disclose Adverse  
Events**



## The Final Six

### **Domain 1: Contribute to a Culture of Patient Safety**

*A commitment to applying core patient safety knowledge, skills and values to every day work.*

### **Domain 2: Work in Teams for Patient Safety**

*Working within interprofessional teams to enhance both patient safety and quality of care*

## The Final Six - continued

### **Domain 3: Communicate Effectively for Patient Safety**

*Promoting patient safety through effective health care communication*

### **Domain 4: Manage Safety Risk**

*Anticipating, recognizing, and managing situations that place patients at risk.*



## The Final Six - continued

### **Domain 5: Optimize Human and Environmental Factors**

*Managing the relationship between individual and environmental characteristics in order to optimize patient safety.*

### **Domain 6: Recognize, Respond and Report Adverse Events**

*Recognizing an adverse event occurrence and responding effectively to mitigate harm to the patient, ensuring disclosure and preventing recurrence.*



## Contents of final document September 2008

- **Methodology**
- **Overview of Safety Competencies**
- **Strategies for Implementing the Safety Competencies**
- **Strategies for Teaching, Learning and Assessing the Safety Competencies**
- **Case Examples of the Safety Competencies**
- **Bringing the Safety Competencies to the workplace**
- **Conclusions and Future Directions**
- **Glossary**



## Results

- 1<sup>st</sup> Interprofessional Patient Safety Framework in Canada
- Competency-based approach
- Simple and flexible
- Designed for multiple health professions
- By enhancing education, the framework can enhance patient care



## Dissemination and stakeholder engagement

- **Word of mouth**
- **Speaking opportunities**
- **Key informant interviews**
- **Meetings**
  - Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada,
  - Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing
  - CMA, etc.

## Multiple-launch strategy

- **RCPSC – International Conference on Residency Education**
- **Halifax 8 – Canadian Healthcare Safety Symposium**
- **CAPHC**
- **Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing - Education Summit**
- **CFPC - Family Medicine Forum**
- **Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists - Professional Practice Conference, etc.**



## Stakeholder Engagement Paediatric Community

- **Presentation at PCC Patient Safety Working Group (PSWG)**
- **Discussion and validation by PSWG**
- **Recommendation from PSWG to PCC:**
  - **adoption of Safety Competencies as a leadership piece among specialties**
  - **using Safety Competencies as a Demonstration Project to pilot in Canadian paediatric programs – 09-11**
  - **PCC to partner with Program Directors across Canada**
  - **Launch of pilot project at CAPHC annual meeting**
  - **Workshop for PCC and program directors – June 2009**
  - **Webinar for PCC and program directors – October 2009**



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## Thank You!

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