



**WEBINAR**

## **Preventing Patient Falls: Getting on the Right Path**

(Webinar T7061)

Date: **November 10, 2020**

Time: **9:00 – 11:00 a.m. CT**

### **Speakers:**

Laura A. Dixon, President of Healthcare Risk Education and Consulting

**Cost: \$195 to NHA members (per hospital, no charge for additional lines, recordings available up to 120 days after the webinar)**

### **Target Audience**

Fall Team Members, Nurses, Quality Management Coordinator, Joint Commission Coordinator, Regulatory Affairs Director, Patient Safety Officer, Chief Nursing Officer, Chief Medical Officer or VP of Medical Staff, Chief Operating Officer, Pharmacist, Risk Manager, Hospital Legal Counsel, Occupational or Physical Therapists, Physicians, VP of Medical Staff, Nurse Managers, Nursing Assistants, Nurse Supervisor, Nurse Educator, Quality Director, Patient Safety Officer, Nurse Supervisors, Joint Commission coordinator, Compliance Officer, Legal Counsel, Consumer Advocate, Department Directors, Department Falls Champion, Falls Clinical Nurse Specialist and anyone involved in preventing patient falls.

### **Course Curriculum**

Every year, up to 1,000,000 patients experience a fall in a hospital, and patient falls are the leading cause of injury-related deaths for patients over 65 years of age. Luckily, nearly a third of these falls can be prevented. This webinar will discuss how to comply with the Joint Commission and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) hospital Conditions of Participation (CoP) standards, with the goal of reducing the number and severity of falls.

In addition to the impact on patient safety and the quality of care, there is a significant financial incentive for facilities to focus on fall prevention. Falls and

related trauma are one of the hospital acquired conditions (HAC) identified by CMS for which hospitals will **not** receive payment related to the adverse events for Medicare patients. In 2020, there is a 1% reduction in Medicare payments to hospitals whose rate is in the top quartile.

This seminar will review a multi-faceted approach to preventing falls, including the following:

- The importance and role of a falls team
- Causes of falls
- Categories of risk and risk assessment tools
- Falls assessments and interventions
- Effective policies and procedures
- Toileting
- Medication alteration and the role of the pharmacist
- Hourly rounding
- Post fall huddle
- The need for mobility
- Evidenced-based literature review
- AHRQ Toolkit and TJC Targeted Solutions Tool

## Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this session, participants should be able to:

- Recall that every hospital should have a falls program
- Describe that all staff should know how to define what constitutes a fall and how to measure the fall rate
- Explain that there are intrinsic and extrinsic causes of falls
- Recall that falls are one of the things CMS will not pay for on Medicare patients if they occur during hospitalization and cause serious injury or death
- Discuss that toileting and hourly rounding can reduce falls in high risk patients
- Discuss the issue of decreased mobility and how it can result in falls
- List evidenced based fall assessment tools used in inpatient and outpatient settings

## Speaker Bio

Laura A. Dixon is the president of Healthcare Risk Education and Consulting. She previously served as the Director, Facility Patient Safety and Risk Management and Operations for COPIC from 2014 to 2020. In her role, Ms. Dixon provided patient safety and risk management consultation and training to facilities, practitioners and staff in multiple states.

Ms. Dixon has more than twenty years of clinical experience in acute care facilities, including critical care, coronary care, peri-operative services and pain management. Prior to joining COPIC, she served as the Director, Western Region, Patient Safety and Risk Management for The Doctors Company, Napa, California. In this capacity, she provided patient safety and risk management consultation to the physicians and staff for the western United States.

As a registered nurse and attorney, Laura holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Regis University, a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from Drake University College of Law, and a Registered Nurse Diploma from Saint Luke's School Professional Nursing. She is licensed to practice law in Colorado and California.

*The speaker has no real or perceived conflicts of interest that relate to this presentation.*