

PSO's as SOP's!

Getting Patient Safety Organization Buy-In for EMS CQI

Jay H. Reich, MD FACEP

EMS Medical Director

Kansas City Fire Department

EMS Section Chief-Department of Emergency Medicine

University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine

Questions

1. What is the value to participating in a Patient Safety Organization?
2. What are the hurdles to participation in a Patient Safety Organization?
3. What are some of the keys to making participation successful?

Confession is Good for the Soul



“Almighty Paul Pepe, who does freely pardon all who confess;
forgive all of our sins, dosing errors and missed intubations”

From the Book of Eagles, Talons 20:15

History

Pre 1990's: "Punitive Culture"

Individual is always responsible; errors not reported

1990's: "Blame Free Culture"

System to blame, not the individual

2000: "Just Culture"

Holds both system and individual accountable

Barriers to Error Reporting

- EMS culture discourages sharing
- Embarrassment and loss of reputation
- Discovery by peers, lawyers, media, etc
- Many states don't provide adequate peer review or liability protections for agencies or providers

Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2005

- Response to the 1999 Institute of Medicine report, “To Err Is Human”
- Federally-listed Patient Safety Organizations & national database
- Framework for hospitals, doctors, and other providers to voluntarily report on a confidential basis



Primary PSO Activities

- Collection and analysis of “Patient Safety Work Products”
- Development and dissemination of best practices recommendations, protocols, etc.
- Provide case specific feedback and assistance to help minimize risk
- Encourage a culture of safety!

PSO Protections

- Focused case reviews by Medical Director
- Internal QA studies
- All paper and electronic data, notes and documents related to the CQI process
- Conversations and personal opinion!
- Performance feedback to crews



Not Included!

- Medical record (PCR)
- Billing info
- Original patient or provider information, i.e. factual recall
- Information collected, developed, or maintained outside a PSO system

Key Exceptions

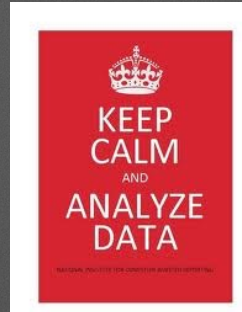
- Federal, State, Local subpoenas (criminal or administrative)
- Professional disciplinary proceedings
- De-identified patient safety work product

Feds vs. State

Federal requirements for patient safety work product protection preempt any conflicting state requirements



Advantages



- Independent, external experts
- Aggregate data locally, regionally, and nationally to better understand safety events
- Learn from other's mistakes
- Trends can be developed across similar type services
- Develop best practices, benchmarks, and compliance standards

Other Benefits

- Protecting the reputation of the agency or provider
- Interagency collaboration
- Data sharing

Reports and Alerts



The screenshot shows the website of the Center for Patient Safety. The header includes the logo and navigation links: Home, Who We Work With, and Safety Culture. The main content area is titled 'Alerts / Safety Watch: Stretchers'. It contains a paragraph stating that multiple stretcher-related incidents have been reported, followed by a list of six specific concerns. A yellow 'SAFETY WATCH' badge is positioned to the right of the list. Below the list, there is a section titled 'How to Mitigate Risk' with advice on taking appropriate actions to prevent events. At the bottom, contact information for Ferno and Stryker is provided, along with the date 08.11.14 and a note that the alert was posted in the EMTs category.

Center for Patient Safety

[Home](#) [Who We Work With](#) [Safety Culture](#)

Alerts / Safety Watch: Stretchers

Multiple stretcher-related incidents have been reported to the Center's Patient Safety Organization. The following areas of concern are from real events:

- Stretcher collapsed while a patient was on it
- Stretcher rolled out of control with a single attendant guiding it
- Head of the stretcher collapsed while in upright position
- Bolts or screws were missing from stretcher
- Power function was not operational and manual mode was not engaging
- Unable to raise or lower stretcher using power function

SAFETY WATCH

How to Mitigate Risk

The Center advises you to take appropriate actions to prevent events from occurring at your organization. Please follow the manufacture recommendations and guidelines for maintenance as well as usage of the equipment. It is also recommended you conduct a refresher on the device and all supporting equipment.

For more information, contact your manufacture and have the serial number available.
Ferno- 877-733-0911
Stryker-800-327-6511

08.11.14

Posted in: [EMTs](#)

Periodically send out reports/alerts for adverse events, near misses or dangerous conditions

KCFD



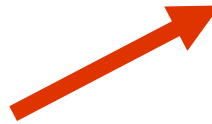
- All ALS Service
- 125,000 calls/year with 75,000 patient transports
- Strong Labor-Management Cooperative Agreement

KCFD Experience

- Signed contract in December 2010
- Early-Mid 2011
 - “Patient Safety System” policies and guidelines were developed and vetted by Labor-Management Steering Committee
 - “Self-reported” errors removed from the disciplinary process
- Mid-Late 2011
 - Reporting system and submission tool were created
 - Initiated training of personnel

Crew Information

- Email Access for KCFD
 - 2013 Survey
- PSO Web Submission
 - VisiNet Rostering



- Hospital Closures
- Equipment Failure Report
- EM Systems
- Info about MAST Intranet Login
- Zoll Upload Procedures
- E-Pro Scheduler

- Telestaff Web Login
- 2011 EMS Protocols
- KCFD Info
- AR1-16 Technology Use
- I/T & Password Info
- Arrest Study Survey

- Letter to Employees about KCFD Membership
 - KCFD Membership Application
 - KCFD Membership Brochure



PSO Web Submittal

* are required

Medic Name:

Call Number:

Booklet Number:

Unit:

* Date:

Time:

Did issue occur while on a call?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Negatively affect patient care?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Incident reported elsewhere?

- ☐ ADC
☐ BC
☐ Captain
☐ EFR
☐ IFR
☐ Other : (Please specify)

* Summary:

Workgroup

Medical Director

Division Chief of Quality Improvement

Union Representative (Paramedic)

Subject Matter Experts (as needed)

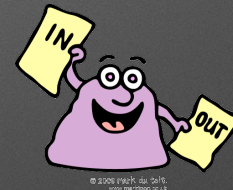
Process

- Submission via web link or verbally
- Record is created and email sent to Chief of QA and Medical Director
- Weekly Meetings
 - Review submissions, gather data and conduct interviews
 - Develop action plan

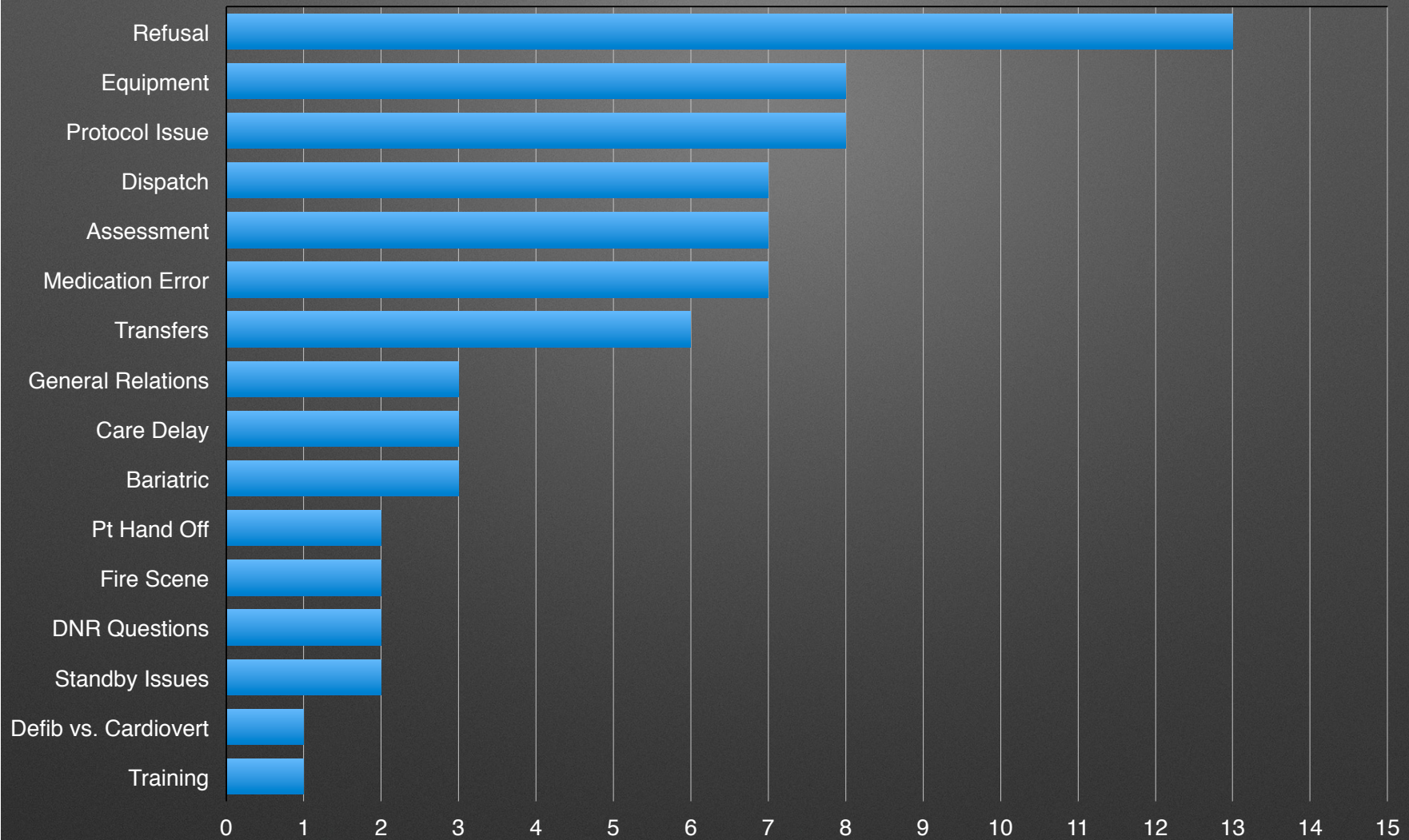


Yearly Submissions

- 2012
 - Introduced
- 2013
 - 54 Submissions
- 2014
 - 93 Submissions

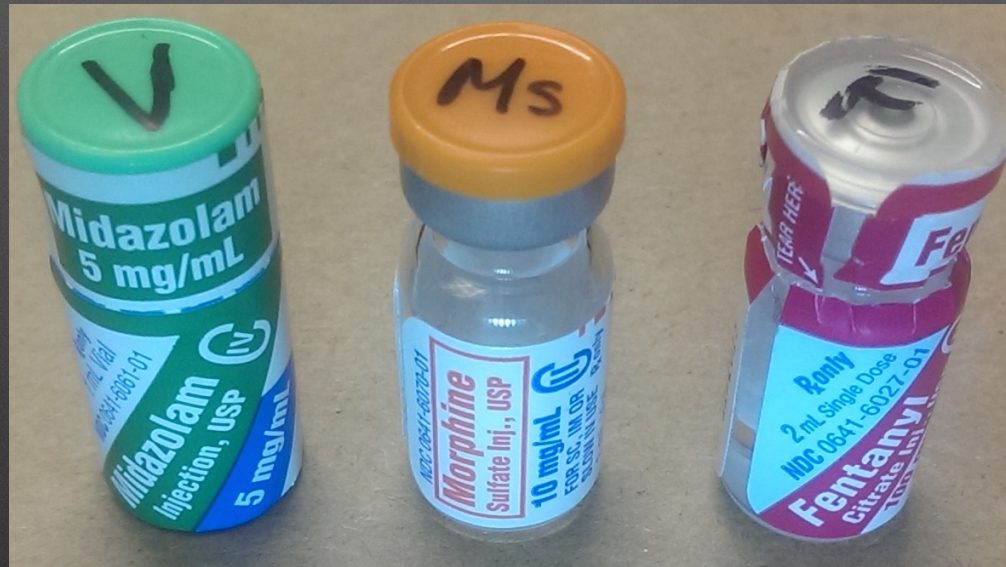


■ PSO Submissions by Category-2014



Work-products —> Systemwide Changes

Morphine and Midazolam



Challenges

- Getting the word out
- Reporting mechanism
 - No home access, no secure phone line
- Reluctance to report/discuss cases
- Unfounded fear of being disciplined

Finding a PSO

- Limited number of PSO's catering to EMS



Center for Patient Safety



Emergency Medical Error Reduction Group

- Hospital-based PSO
- Regional PSO

Questions

1. What is the value to participating in a Patient Safety Organization?

- Protections and confidentiality
- Increased reporting
- Learn from other's mistakes

Questions

2. What are the hurdles to participation in a Patient Safety Organization?

- Educational process
- Fear of discipline
- Cost

Questions

3. What are some of the keys to making participation successful?

- Joint labor-management effort
- Provider buy-in
- Simple reporting mechanisms