

Alaska Native Medical Center Patient Safety Quarterly



Earn CE credit for reading the Patient Safety Quarterly and completing a survey!

In support of improving patient care, ANMC is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education, the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education, and the American Nurses Credentialing Center, to provide continuing education for the health care team.

CPE credit will be posted to the online CPE Monitor system within 60 days following completion of each activity when applicable.

Contact hours:

ANMC designates this activity for a maximum of 2 contact hours, commensurate with participation provided in 0.5 contact hours upon completion of quarterly survey/evaluation tool.

Enduring access for credit is available during the month of publication, example: The January 2022 Patient Safety Bulletin will provide access for CE credit until January 31, 2022.

This CE opportunity is a communication skills event and not applicable to commercial bias. No mitigation or disclosure is needed.

Requirements for successful completion:

To receive CE credit, please make sure you have read the Patient Safety Quarterly and completed the electronic survey/evaluation tool before the last day of the month published. Scan the QR code to access the survey.

For more information, contact jfielder@anthc.org or (907) 729-1387.

Do you have a story or something to share in the quarterly?
Contact the Patient Safety Committee at: patientsafetycommittee@anthc.org



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ANMC Auxiliary helps promote patient safety with Sara Stedy purchase

Thank you to the ANMC Auxiliary for purchasing the Sara Stedy standing and raising aids and for their committed, continued support for our mission to provide the highest quality health services for our patients.

Our patients gain important physical and psychological benefits when their mobility is maintained. Choosing the right mechanical aid is crucial for maintaining mobility. The Sara Stedy enables a single caregiver to assist patients in performing sit-to-stand transfers throughout their hospital stay and can support early mobility initiatives by encouraging patients to be active participants in their own mobility and recovery.

The Sara Stedy can be used for patients that are partially weight-bearing and weigh up to 400 pounds. This type of assistive equipment can help our patients feel a sense of independence and dignity and to feel safe when they need to navigate their rooms or transfer from the bedside to a wheelchair.



RLDatix for patient safety

We appreciate everyone taking the time to report incidents and concerns into RLDatix. This process allows us to assess and respond to patient safety events, evaluate processes and know what is affecting staff.

Entering events online into RLDatix when able is the best way to assure all relevant information is collected. The RLDatix online platform prompts you to answer important questions like patient MRN and location that often get forgotten on the hotline.

In the event that you do need to utilize the Safety Hotline (907) 729-2329, please remember to clearly state the following:

- Patient(s) MRN so staff can follow up on processes at a later time. Without this piece, many issues cannot be verified or reviewed.
- Name of staff involved or affected and their department.
- Clearly state concern.



Remember that patient safety events are reviewed and treated with confidentiality.

If you wish to remain anonymous, please do so but ensure all relevant information is available.

Arctic Apothecary Pharmacy Newsletter

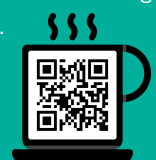
The Arctic Apothecary is a quarterly pharmacy newsletter put out by the Pharmacy department, highlighting current pharmacy hot topics, drug shortages, significant formulary changes and other pressing topics in the pharmacy world. A 'Meet Your Pharmacy Staff' section is included so you can become more familiar with your inpatient and outpatient pharmacy teams and the editions are finished off with the sweet taste of a seasonal recipe. Pharmacy invites you to read their newsletter and welcomes your feedback!

To view the current and past editions, visit: bit.ly/ArcticApothecary



Complete this survey for a chance to win a coffee card!

Share your thoughts about the ANMC PSQ by scanning the QR code and completing the survey below, and you will be entered into a coffee card drawing. Twenty winners will be selected each quarter. The first drawing will occur in early February.



Safe patient handling

The Safe Patient Handling and Mobility (SPHM) initiative at ANMC contributes to all four of the Quadruple Aim Goals of care team well-being, reducing costs, experience of care, and population health.

Nurses and nursing aides experience musculoskeletal injuries far more than any other occupation, including warehouse workers, truckers and construction laborers. These injuries are a direct result of nursing employees doing their everyday jobs of lifting and moving patients. The implementation of SPHM programs and the effective use of patient handling equipment have proven to be highly successful in reducing the number of injuries, lost workdays, and the direct and indirect costs associated with patient handling activities.

In addition to reductions in occupational injuries, early mobilization of patients results in improved clinical outcomes. A growing body of literature suggests that increased mobility for patients can reduce the effects of ICU-acquired weakness, patient falls, hospital-acquired pressure injuries, and rates of hospital-acquired infections such as ventilator-acquired pneumonia. Early mobility is also shown to decrease the length of hospital stays and allow patients to be functionally independent and able to go directly home after their hospitalization.

ANMC's Critical Care Unit (CCU) is equipped with an overhead patient lift in every patient room and four additional overhead lifts in the Progressive Care Unit, including two bariatric capacity overhead lifts that can accommodate up to 1,100 pounds.

Katie Hubbard and Taneisha McComb from ANMC's SPHM workgroup recently partnered with CCU Nursing leadership to roll out washable repositioning sheets and slings, which will present a cost savings of at least \$500,000 annually over the cost of the previously used disposable sheets and slings. Katie and Taneisha worked with Claire Barone, Clinical Shift Supervisor in CCU, to provide staff education in the form of posters displayed in various locations on the unit and rounding with staff to discuss the use of the washable sheets and slings. Education was also provided to Rehabilitation clinical staff and Lift Team members. The washable slings can be used for a variety of patient handling activities including repositioning, turning, boosting, lateral transfers, seated transfers, limb holding, and placing patients in a prone position.

Funding has been secured to install at least 64 overhead patient lifts on the fourth and fifth floor inpatient units, providing overhead lift coverage for 70% of the patient beds. This project will further the overall goal of ANMC becoming a no-manual lift hospital and providing the highest quality of care to the patients we serve.



MyHero Rave related to this project

"I worked with Katie and Taneisha on a project this year for the CCU. They were great to work with and always brought their best to the table! Both adapted to our clinical schedule without complaint, and even with enthusiasm (we are a 24-hour unit). I can't wait to do another project with them."

-Submitted for Katie Hubbard and Taneisha McComb by Claire Barone

Supply Chain Management working with Medline, LLC to improve supply chain logistics

Supply Chain Management (SCM) takes patient safety to heart and is in the process of implementing a new distributor agreement with Medline Industries, LLC. Medline is a manufacturer as well as a distributor and the purpose of this move is to improve supply chain logistics, which will provide the increased ability to stock items at the Anchorage Medline warehouse that we utilize. Working with a manufacturer as well as a distributor helps stabilize the supply chain for many of the nursing commodity items that were in short supply during the pandemic. The implementation will be conducted in phases and the first phase includes moving many of the Cardinal branded items to Medline, which includes minor procedure trays, custom procedure trays used in Surgical Services and nursing commodity items. The second phase will be moving items that are purchased direct from manufacturers and the third phase moving ANMC to a “Low Unit of Measure” (LUM) program. A huge thank you to Nursing for reviewing the items, helping expedite getting items into inventory.

The LUM program will be a huge benefit to ANMC. Items will come over to the main campus in reusable plastic totes that will reduce and eliminate much of the cardboard footprint from the facility. This will also save staff time allowing for better customer service. As staffing levels are currently very limited, this program will also reduce the amount of inventory that we have to hold in Central Supply, allowing staff to better maintain the area for cleanliness.



What you need to know about Clostridioides difficile (C. diff)

Knowledge Check:

Q: How long can C. diff survive on surfaces outside a host?

A: CDC states C. diff spores can survive in the environment for 5+ months!

Be aware of C. diff risk factors:

- People are 7 to 10 times more likely to get C. diff while taking an antibiotic and in the subsequent month.
- Those in an extended stay in a health care setting
- 80% of deaths from C. diff occur in patients 65 years old or older.

Be aware of C. diff signs and symptoms:

- Watery diarrhea three times or more per day for more than 24 hours
- Abdominal cramping and tenderness
- Fever
- Leukocytosis

C. diff prevention

- Careful prescribing of antibiotics
- Early and reliable testing
 - ANTHC has 2-tier testing – results of tests available within three hours!
 - 1st tier: PCR (2h) – if positive ISOLATE immediately.
 - 2nd tier: All positive PCR samples are next tested for C. diff toxin (1h) – continue to ISOLATE (even if toxin negative).

- Early Isolation: All PCR positive patients should be placed in Modified Contact isolation.
 - Maintain isolation for six weeks following resolution of symptoms, as one in six patients will get a reinfection with C. diff in the subsequent 2-8 weeks.

- All staff and visitors should practice 100% adherence to proper PPE whenever entering the patient’s environment and/or performing direct patient care.
 - Wear gowns and gloves.
 - Wash hands with soap and water.
 - Clean all patient care equipment and environment with EPA-registered disinfectant (e.g., bleach – follow manufacturer’s contact time of two minutes)
 - Effective communication when patient is transferred.