



JOB CODE	
BAND	
FLSA	
FAMILY	

POSITION DESCRIPTION

POSITION TITLE: PATIENT SAFETY OFFICER

DEPARTMENT: Performance Improvement/Clinical Effectiveness

ORGANIZATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS: Clinical Divisions, Clinical Departments, Business Units, Clinical Systems Improvement Teams, Risk Management, Patient Safety Team, Medication Safety Team.

SUPERVISOR'S TITLE: Vice President, Quality and Transformation

COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIPS: Cabinet Champion for Patient Safety, Senior Leadership, Risk Management/General Council, Senior Director Patient Safety, QRG Leadership and Staff, Clinical Systems Improvement Leaders, Infection Control, Pharmacy, Information Services, Medical Staff, Patient Services, Human Resources.

TITLES SUPERVISED: None

TOTAL NUMBER OF FTE's DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY SUPERVISED: 0

PURPOSE OF POSITION: Improving patient safety requires the coordinated efforts of senior leadership, clinical leaders, and frontline staff. The Patient Safety Officer is responsible for working collaboratively with these groups for the purpose of measurably improving patient safety and reducing patient harm/errors. This requires the systematic implementation of effective, reliable care practices and developing an appropriate institutional patient safety culture.

MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

An important aspect of the patient safety officer position is the ability to work collegially and collaboratively with a large number of groups and individuals. While the patient safety officer has the primary responsibility for the items listed below, they should be accomplished by working closely with the groups and individuals listed previously (See Organizational and Collaborative Relationships).

1. Provides leadership and direction to the organizational patient safety strategy.
 2. Continuously evaluates and improves the patient safety program based on internal needs and external requirements and standards.
 3. With appropriate collaboration, directs the development of a comprehensive Patients Safety Plan and updates the plan as needed.
 4. Conducts an annual assessment of patient risks and working closely with the Patient Safety Team and CCHMC Senior leadership, develops annual institutional patient safety goals.
 5. Develops and implements an institutional patient safety measurement strategy.
 6. Ensures the development of surveillance systems to identify and mitigate potential patient harm.
 7. Supports/facilitates the implementation of innovation and systems that eliminate patient harm.
 8. Significantly contributes to the published evidence related to improving patient safety.
 9. Facilitates process improvement teams that directly support CCHMC patient safety goals
 10. Develops and implements initiatives to create an appropriate patient safety culture using transparency as the foundation of this effort.
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11. Supports and encourages submission of patient safety learning reports from frontline staff.
 12. Working in collaboration with Risk Management and senior hospital leadership, coordinates root cause analysis of patient safety events and assures implementation of resulting actions plans.
 13. Coordinates organizational response to regulatory standards related to patient safety including but not limited to the JCAHO National Patient Safety Goals.
 14. Monitors literature and professional organizations for new or revised best practices related to patient safety.
 15. With the collaboration of the Medical Staff, Patient Services, and Human Resources, designs, updates, and implements patient safety education modules for new employee orientation and continuing education.
 16. Provides input into the budget process for expenses related to patient safety.
 17. Performs other duties as assigned.

REQUIRED SKILLS:

1. Excellent verbal and writing skills.
2. Advanced interpersonal communication skills to provide effective consultation and collaboration.
3. Ability to relate to diverse ages and demographic backgrounds.
4. Ability to organize and define problems, develop strategies, and carry out action plans.
5. Advanced analytical skills to trend and analyze data.
6. Capable of exercising sound judgment and making independent decisions.
7. Ability to adapt to a complex organizational environment.
8. Ability to promote and maintain positive relationships with Cincinnati Children's departments and staff.
9. Leadership ability required to engender cooperation, confidence and respect from Cincinnati Children's staff.

EDUCATION/WORK EXPERIENCE:

1. MD/DO or RN with current license
2. Minimum of five years of clinical experience
3. Basic understanding of care processes provided in multiple areas of the hospital
4. Prior leadership responsibility with a proven track record of implementing change in a complex environment like an academic medical center
5. Knowledge of rapid cycle improvement theory and human factor principles
6. Specific patient safety training
7. Master's Degree preferred