

Proposed guidelines for legislatively-created Patient Safety Organizations

1. A legislatively-designated patient safety organization certified as a federal Patient Safety Organization (LDPSO) shall serve as a learning organization to assist healthcare providers improve the quality and safety of healthcare, reduce harm to patients and promote awareness and development of a culture of patient safety in the state's healthcare system and by the public.

2. An LDPSO shall work with patient safety centers, federally-certified Patient Safety Organizations (PSO's), patient safety organizations, healthcare providers and the public (collectively referred to hereafter as the "Patient Safety Community") to coordinate patient safety activities in the state. An LDPSO may create corporate subsidiaries and shall have such other powers and duties as specified in the LDPSO's enabling legislation.

3. As its mission and primary activity, the LDPSO shall conduct activities and coordinate the activities of the Patient Safety Community to improve patient safety and the quality of health care delivery.

4. To the extent practical and appropriate, it shall have arrangements to receive and review patient safety data and patient safety work product (collectively referred to hereafter as "PSWP") from providers and otherwise comply with requirements of the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2005, Public Law 109-41, "PSQIA". The LDPSO shall collect PSWP from providers in a standardized manner that permits valid comparisons of similar cases among similar providers. It shall utilize PSWP to provide direct feedback and assistance to providers to minimize patient risk. The LDPSO shall maintain PSWP separately from any non-patient safety activities and functions.

5. In addition to the foregoing, the LDPSO shall have policies and procedures to perform each of the patient safety activities required by PSQIA, including (but not limited to) the following:

- a. Develop and disseminate information (such as recommendations, protocols, or information regarding best practices) with respect to improving patient safety;
- b. Utilize PSWP to encourage a culture of safety and provide feedback and assistance to reduce patient risk;
- c. Maintain procedures to preserve confidentiality and security of PSWP;
- d. Utilize qualified staff;
- e. Coordinate Patient Safety Evaluation Systems to collect, manage, or analyze information for reporting to or by patient safety organizations and the LDPSO; and
- f. Provide feedback to participants in such Patient Safety Evaluation Systems.

6. To the extent practicable, the LDPSO may coordinate and facilitate activities such as, but not limited to, the following:
 - a. Creation and maintenance of state and/or local networks of patient safety databases. Such networks should provide an interactive evidence-based management resource for the Patient Safety Community. Networks shall have the capacity to accept, aggregate, and analyze PSWP.
 - b. Determination of common formats for reporting to and among networks, including necessary PSWP data elements, common and consistent definitions, and a standardized computer interface for processing PSWP. To the extent practicable, such network data standards shall be consistent with the administrative simplification provisions of part C of title XI of the Social Security Act.

7. To the extent practicable, PSWP reported to and among networks shall be used to analyze and report state and local statistics, including trends and patterns of healthcare errors.