

# The Safety Competencies Project

## The Safety Competencies

Enhancing Patient Safety Across the Health Professions



Canadian Patient Safety Institute / Institut canadien pour la sécurité des patients

Patient safety, defined as the reduction and mitigation of unsafe acts within the health care system, as well as through the use of best practices shown to lead to optimal patient outcomes, is a critical aspect of quality health care.

The Safety Competencies provide a framework of six core domains of abilities that are shared by all health care professionals. By contributing to the patient safety education of health care professionals, the Safety Competencies can contribute to safer patient care.

- **Domain 1: Contribute to a Culture of Patient Safety**  
A commitment to applying core patient safety knowledge, skills and attitudes to everyday work.
- **Domain 2: Work in Teams for Patient Safety**  
Working within interprofessional teams to optimize both patient safety and quality of care.
- **Domain 3: Communicate Effectively for Patient Safety**  
Promoting patient safety through effective health care communication.
- **Domain 4: Manage Safety Risks**  
Anticipating, recognizing and managing situations that place patients at risk.
- **Domain 5: Optimize Human and Environmental Factors**  
Managing the relationship between individual and environmental characteristics in order to optimize patient safety.
- **Domain 6: Recognize, Respond to and Disclose Adverse Events**  
Recognizing the occurrence of an adverse event or close call and responding effectively to mitigate harm to the patient, ensure disclosure, and prevent recurrence.



**Snapshot of the Safety Competencies Framework**

- 20 Key Competencies
- 140 Enabling Competencies
- 77 Knowledge Elements
- 34 Practical Skills
- 23 Essential Attitudes

[www.safetycomp.ca](http://www.safetycomp.ca)

## Eye on the Ball

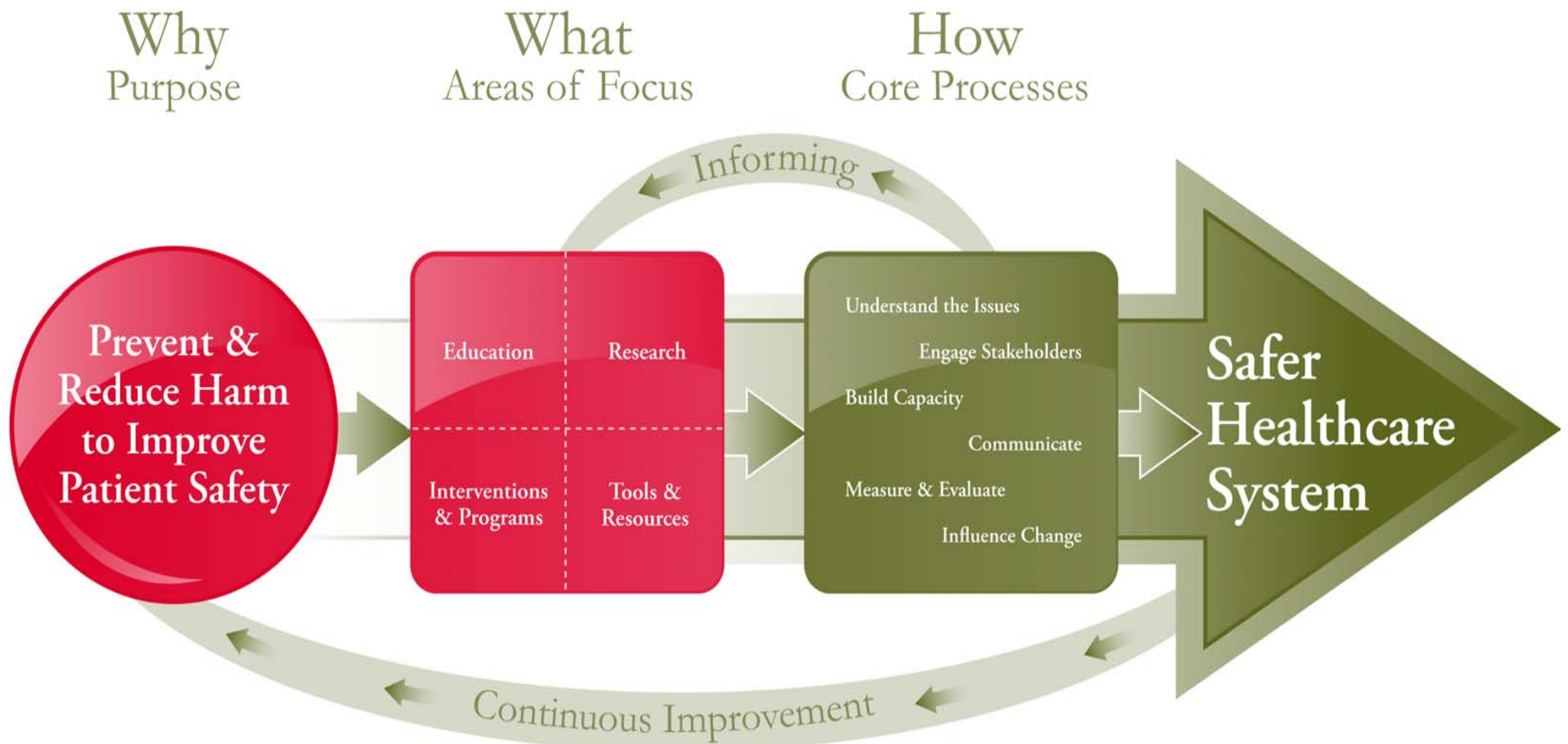
**Deborah Tregunno**  
**CASN Annual Meeting**  
**November 11, 2008**

Canadian Patient Safety Institute *Building a safer Health System*



# CPSI Strategic Direction

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# CPSI Strategic Direction

## *Education*

**Executive Patient Safety Series**  
**Simulation**  
**Halifax Conferences**  
**Canadian Patient Safety Officer Course**  
**Patient Safety Competencies**

## *Research*

**Mental health**  
**Home care**  
**Long Term Care**  
**Building Capacity through Research**

## *Interventions & Programs*

**World Health Organization High 5's**  
**Patients for Patient Safety**  
**Human Factors**  
**Culture of Patient Safety**  
**Canada's Hand Hygiene Campaign**  
***Safer Healthcare Now!***

## *Tools & Resources*

**Root Cause Analysis**  
**Electronic Health Record**  
**Canadian Disclosure Guidelines**  
**Canadian Adverse Event Reporting and Learning System**

# The Safety Competencies Project

## Rationale

- No widely accepted approach to incorporate patient safety practices into HPE
- Provide a framework of core domains of abilities for all health professionals to incorporate into their work
- Enhancing patient care through enhancing health professions education

# The Safety Competencies Project

## Background work

- Education and Professional Development Advisory Committee study session – October 2006
- Literature review of patient safety curricula
- Environmental scan of HPE curricula in Canada

## Initial review

- Thematic analysis by CPSI Steering Committee
- Stakeholder consultation (>500 organizations)

# The Safety Competencies Project

## Development Process

### Interprofessional Steering Committee

- Themes → Identification of 7 Domains building on work of advisory committee
- **Domain Working Groups**
- Recruitment of interprofessional members (>75)
- Task: identify essential elements in each Domain
- **Work fashioned after CanMEDS educational framework designed by the Royal College**



# The Safety Competencies Project

**Domain 1: Contributing to a culture of patient safety –  
A commitment to applying core patient safety  
*knowledge, skills and values to everyday work***

**Domain 2: Work in teams for patient safety –  
Working within interprofessional teams to optimize  
patient safety**

**Domain 3: Communicate effectively for patient safety -  
Promoting patient safety through effective health care  
communication**

# The Safety Competencies Project

**Domain 4: Manage safety risks –**

***Anticipating, recognizing and managing situations that place patients at risk***

**Domain 5: Optimize human and environmental factors -  
*Managing the relationship between individual and environmental characteristics to optimize patient safety***

**Domain 6: Recognize, respond to and disclose adverse events –**

***Recognizing the occurrence of an adverse event or close call and responding effectively to mitigate harm to the patient, ensure disclosure, and prevent recurrence***



# The Safety Competencies Project

## Results

- 1<sup>st</sup> Interprofessional Patient Safety Framework in Canada
- Competency-based approach
- Simple and flexible
- Designed for inter-professional learning and practice

# The Safety Competencies Project

## ATTRIBUTES OF END RESULT:

- **Definition (6)**
- **Description (6)**
- **Elements:**
  - **knowledge (37)**
  - **practical skills (34)**
  - **essential attitudes (23)**
- **Key Competencies (20)**
- **Enabling Competencies (140)**

# The Safety Competencies Project

- **Early dissemination for awareness and support to key stakeholders to accelerate uptake**



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**Snapshot of the Safety Competencies framework**

- 20 Key Competencies
- 120 Enabling Competencies
- 77 Knowledge Elements
- 34 Practical Skills
- 25 Essential Attitudes

The Safety Competencies - produced in collaboration with The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada - September 2016

# The Safety Competencies Project

- Targeted launches at yearly national meetings for educators in medicine, nursing, pharmacy and allied health sciences
- Presentations at annual/special meetings to promote framework (paper/poster presentations/workshops)
- Creating tools/vehicles for dissemination: CD, CPSI website, journal articles, newsletter article template, Speaker's kit, etc.

# The Safety Competencies Project

- **Leveraging cross-cutting themes with adoption of safety competencies (interprofessional practice; simulation) through dissemination strategies and stakeholder engagement**
- **Submitting applications for national awards for innovative educational initiatives**
- **Developing tools for faculty development workshops**
- **Funding research for integration into education and practice**

# The Safety Competencies Project

## Eye on the Ball

- **Opportunities to incorporate into regional and national standards**
- **Graduate programs**
- **Workplace teaching**

# The Safety Competencies Project

- **For more information:**
- **Write:** [safetycomp@cpsi-icsp.ca](mailto:safetycomp@cpsi-icsp.ca)
- **Visit:** [www.safetycomp.ca](http://www.safetycomp.ca)
- **Key contact:**
  - Laurie Taylor, Director of operations,  
CPSI
  - 1-613-730-7322



# The Safety Competencies Project



**Questions**

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