Patient safety is at the forefront of everything we do. It's important we understand from staff how well we're doing and where we can improve. Please take a minute to tell us what you think of our current culture around patient safety. The survey is only 13 questions, and answers are kept confidential. Thank you for your valuable input! Take the survey.

—Theresa M. Brennan, MD, chief medical officer

Safety

Workflow for sequestering broken equipment

Broken equipment can cause harm to patients and staff when not properly sequestered. Equipment sequestering ensures that equipment does not return to patient distribution prior to appropriate repair and allows for equipment data download to diagnosis the equipment failure and the timeline of how the equipment was functioning while in patient use.

Proper use of the Epic dietary communication function

A patient had anaphylaxis to a ketogenic formula after the recipe for the new formula was entered using a dietary communication instead of a diet order. The formula room does not receive dietary communications; a diet order must be placed first.

Patient Safety Week 2019: A success!

University of Iowa Health Care celebrated National Patient Safety week from
April 29 to May 3, with more than 500 employees participating in our online activities.

**Hand hygiene adherence**

- [May 2019: 91%](#)
- Tableau workbook

**Quality**

*Changes to *Clostridium difficile* ordering*

As of Tuesday, June 4, the criteria for accepting samples for *C. difficile* testing has changed. Specimens will be rejected from patients who received laxatives in the previous 48 hours, and specimens less than 7 days from a negative result or 14 days from a positive result will be rejected.

**Documenting morbid obesity**

Here are a few tips for properly documenting morbid obesity, with examples and clarification on the distinction between obesity and morbid obesity.

**Change to Amendments to Protected Health Information Policy**

Recently, the Amendments to Protected Health Information Policy, RI-PHI-06.04, was updated to revise the protocol for processing amendment requests. Please note, all requests must be made in writing (paper or electronic) to Health Information Management for review and processing.

**Communication**

**We want to hear from you!**

This communication section was created to share stories, processes, and/or innovations for improving team communication. Do you have something your team is doing that works? Or something that was tried and failed? Either way, email cmo@uiowa.edu so we can share and learn.

**Patient experience**

**New notary guidelines**

New guidelines have been developed for UI Hospitals & Clinics regarding
notary service, including forms that hospital notaries can and cannot notarize, and procedures to follow for notary needs, and notary options for staff and faculty.

**New library resources for visually challenged**

The two hospital libraries have been expanding their resources available for visually challenged patients, including more large print materials, Braille items, video collections, magnifying items, and Intel readers.

**Patient comments about compassion and empathy**

From "Thoughtful, compassionate, and very informative" to "had no respect, compassion, or bedside manner."

**Events**

- **Save the date:** [The 7th Annual Quality and Safety Symposium and Research Poster Session](#), Nov. 20 and 21
- **Lean Improvement Model for Health Care Training:** Register now, with two-day sessions in October and November. This highly interactive course teaches and simulates Lean concepts for problem-solving, and identifying and initiating improvements.

**In case you missed it**

- [100 Great Iowa Nurses awards highlight our nurses’ exceptional care](#)
- [What are the National Patient Safety Goals?](#)
- [Congratulations to the Executive Leadership Academy 2018–2019 graduates](#)
- [More UI Health Care services coming to North Liberty, Coralville](#)
- [Whisler named administrative chief of staff](#)
- [Tracking bacteria from the beginning can reduce infections](#)
- [Champions of change: S-T-I-C-K program improves treatment for bloodborne pathogen exposure](#)
- [Advanced Practice Provider Leadership Symposium makes its debut](#)