

Preparing for Reform...

STRATEGIC ISSUES FOR HOSPITAL LEADERS

Success in the post-reform era will require work on many strategies simultaneously, requiring strong and creative leadership to guide hospitals and health systems as they begin their journey toward success under health care reform. Educating boards on strategies and activities also will be critical.

KEY ACTIONS FOR HOSPITALS:

- ▶ Enhance efforts to improve quality and patient safety and reduce variation in care within your organization.
- ▶ Increase clinical and operational efficiencies.
- ▶ Increase efforts to improve patient satisfaction.
- ▶ Reduce avoidable readmissions.
- ▶ For tax-exempt hospitals, identify community partners and conduct community needs assessment as now required.
- ▶ Assess and strengthen your plan for health information technology and electronic health records.
- ▶ Collect standardized race and ethnicity data to reduce health disparities in your organization.
- ▶ Examine readiness for episodic payment and care redesign, and explore organizational capacity to manage care across the continuum.
- ▶ Develop new organizational competencies for clinical integration and foster better alignment with physicians.
- ▶ Assess the insurance benefits your hospital offers employees in light of health reform.

Implementing Reform...

FOR MORE RESOURCES AND HELP

Visit www.aha.org



Visit www.hpoe.org



TUNE INTO AHA WEBCASTS



(800) 424-4301



American Hospital Association

A STRATEGY FOR

Implementing Health Care Reform...

America's hospitals played an important role in shaping health care reform to improve our nation's health care system for the patients and communities we serve.

Our focus now moves to implementing the new law, addressing those issues where we want to see changes made and preparing for new challenges on the horizon. This will be accomplished through a united effort by the hospital field through:

ADVOCACY AND REPRESENTATION

HOSPITAL-LED IMPROVEMENTS

COORDINATION WITH STATE, REGIONAL & METRO HOSPITAL ASSOCIATIONS

Hospitals have a critical role to play in implementing health care reform. Work must be done in hospitals and communities across the country to achieve increased efficiencies through improved quality and patient safety, better management of care, better clinical alignment and reducing cost structures.

Implementing Reform...

PUBLIC POLICY AGENDA

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION—In addition to member conference calls and webcasts, we encourage you to visit “*Health Care Reform... Moving Forward*” on www.aha.org to find policy advisories/analysis, financial calculators, Power-Point presentations, implementation timelines, etc.

REGULATORY IMPLEMENTATION—AHA will work to influence the appropriate federal agencies as they implement health care reform, and communicate opportunities to hospitals about pilot and demonstration projects.

STUDIES—AHA will monitor all studies related to health care reform.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS—AHA will work to ensure appropriate hospital representation on the commissions, advisory committees and task forces established in the law.

GRANT AVAILABILITY—AHA will compile a list of grant opportunities and contacts for those in the field who wish to pursue them.

LEGAL CHALLENGES—Where appropriate, AHA will file *amicus curiae* briefs and take other necessary legal actions.

COVERAGE ENROLLMENT—AHA will work with other organizations to explore mechanisms to ensure individuals gain access to coverage.

LEGISLATIVE IMPROVEMENTS—With any legislation of this magnitude, refinements and corrections will be needed. Top priority issues include: readmissions, health care-acquired infections, disproportionate share hospital cuts and other issues not adequately addressed in the law (physician training, 340B expansions, liability reform and improved Medicaid payment for hospitals).

Implementing Reform...

TOOLS AND RESOURCES

TOOLS FOR MEMBERS—*Hospitals in Pursuit of Excellence* (HPOE) is AHA’s strategic platform to accelerate performance improvement and provide support during health care reform implementation.

Under HPOE, we are developing a robust set of tools with a special focus on quality, safety, health information technology, care coordination and efficiency. These actionable resources help hospitals and health systems design, share and implement strategies that will take them to the next level of performance and address the challenges and opportunities of implementing health care reform.

HPOE provides:

- ▶ **EDUCATION AND SHARING OF BEST PRACTICES** at www.hpoe.org and via webinars.
- ▶ **EVIDENCE-BASED TOOLS AND GUIDES**
- ▶ **LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT** through our Patient Safety Leadership Fellowship and new fellowship network on health system reform.
- ▶ **NATIONAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS** such as the national projects to reduce central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI) and catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI).

HPOE brings providers together to improve performance in several areas including care coordination/readmissions, health care-acquired infections, patient safety and the development of new payment and care delivery models that promote quality and efficiency.

Implementing Reform...

ACTIONABLE GUIDES

Recently, the **HOSPITALS IN PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE: COMPENDIUM OF IMPLEMENTATION GUIDES** was released. The compendium is a compilation of 10 actionable guides targeted to hospital leaders for implementing improvements across multiple dimensions.

- ▶ **Competency-Based Governance: A Foundation for Board and Organizational Effectiveness**
- ▶ **ACHI Community Health Assessment Toolkit**
- ▶ **A Guide to Achieving High Performance in Multi-Hospital Health Systems**
- ▶ **HRET Disparities Toolkit**
- ▶ **Using Workforce Practices to Drive Quality Improvement: A Guide for Hospitals**
- ▶ **Health Care Leader Action Guide to Reduce Avoidable Readmissions**
- ▶ **Health Care Leader Action Guide on Implementation of Electronic Health Records**
- ▶ **AHA Research Synthesis Reports on Bundled Payment and Accountable Care Organizations**
- ▶ **Early Lessons Learned from the Medicare Acute Care Episode Demonstration Project**

