

# Sharon Hospital

## Organizational Success Story

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Sharon Hospital  
Sharon, CT

Submitted by the J.C.R. H.E.N. with hospital permission

Sharon Hospital is a 78-bed, acute care, rural community hospital located in Sharon, CT. We are dedicated to serving the healthcare needs of our communities. Founded in 1909, we continue to aspire to excellence and strengthen our ability to provide quality comprehensive services. With over 450 dedicated staff and over 150 physicians, modern facilities and state-of-the-art treatment, Sharon Hospital is at the center of caring, serving residents in the tri-state area (CT, MA & NY) with compassion. We are an affiliate of Regional Healthcare Partners, a for-profit health system with eight hospitals located in seven states, all of which are rural healthcare facilities. Our mission is to provide high quality compassionate, patient-focused care in a positive healing environment. Our vision is building and growing quality healthcare solutions for our community.

Through the Joint Commission Resources Health Engagement Network (H.E.N.), we have systematically used interdisciplinary performance improvement tools to analyze our current state of hospital-acquired events and design improvement efforts to address challenges and sustain our improvements. We participate in Affinity Group calls to help us learn from other organizations facing many of the same challenges we face with the same limited resources. We have also used many of the tracer tools, references, and resources available to us in the J.C.R. H.E.N.'s Data Management System to address our event specific processes.

We have used interdisciplinary approaches in addressing hospital-acquired events and engaged our medical staff and front line nursing and hospital staff in problem resolution. We have implemented recommended "best practices" that are evidence based including:

- Development of medical staff criteria for E.E.D.s, and escalation processes when criteria are not met,
- Hardwiring implementation of evidence-based prevention bundles for V.A.P., C.L.A.B.S.I., and C.A.U.T.I.,
- Implementation of medical staff criteria for Foley catheter use,
- Assessing and identifying patients at high risk for falling and implementing our "Look at Me, Please" (L.A.M.P.) interventions,
- Allocation of resources for:
  - Evaluation and implementation of skin care supplies, fall alarms, and kits for central line and Foley catheter insertion and maintenance,
  - Orientation and education of appropriate hospital and medical staff on reducing hospital acquired conditions,
- Empowering staff to implement
  - Delivery scheduling "hard stops" when E.E.D. criteria are not met,

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- Nurse driven Foley catheter removal protocols when Foley catheter use criteria are not met.

We are very proud of the work our staff has done in preventing and treating hospital-acquired conditions. Our patients come to us for care, not expecting to have their condition deteriorate. We owe our patients a safe environment and conscientious care that supports their functionality, prevents infections, reduces their length of stay, and provides efficacious and efficient care. The chart below highlights many of our successes.

<b>Event: Metric</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Current Rate</b>	<b>Improvement</b>
V.A.P.: Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia (V.A.P.) Event	0	0	Not Applicable
E.E.D.: Early Elective Delivery less than 39 Weeks Gestation	0.111	0	65%
Falls: Total Falls Per 1000 Patient Days	5.18	0	41%
C.L.A.B.S.I.: Central Line-Associated Bloodstream Infection Event	0	0	Not Applicable
Pressure Ulcers: Percent of Patients with Hospital Acquired Pressure Ulcers	0	0	Variable
C.A.U.T.I.: Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infection Rate for I.C.U. Patients	0	0	Not Applicable
Readmissions: Percent of Readmitted Patients	4.07	2.34	19%

Each day our work continues as sustaining the gain with patient safety is our utmost priority. Thanks to the support we receive from Regional Healthcare Partners, the Partnership for Patients and the Joint Commission Resources Health Engagement Network, we continue to make a positive impact on our patients and their families.

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