



# HASC Briefs

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## Patient Safety Collaboration Prevents 3,500 Patient Deaths, Avoids \$63 Million in Costs

# Patient Safety First... a California Partnership for Health



By reducing early elective deliveries and hospital-acquired infections, *Patient Safety First (PSF)...* a California Partnership for Health avoided 3,576 deaths and more than \$63 million in otherwise unnecessary hospital costs between 2009 and 2012, the collaborative announced in its year-end report.

PSF is a statewide collaborative between the Hospital Council of Northern & Central California, the Hospital Association of Southern California, the Hospital Association of San Diego & Imperial Counties, Anthem Blue Cross, National Health Foundation and California hospitals. The group's mission is to improve quality and reduce health care costs across the state.

Since the inception of the collaborative in 2010, PSF member hospitals have shown significant improvement in four important hospital-based avoidable harm initiatives: sepsis mortality, ventilator associated pneumonia, central line blood stream infections and perinatal gestational age deliveries under 39 weeks. More specifically, approximately 40 hospitals consistently reported before and after data, and their results show:

- A 74% reduction in early elective deliveries prior to 39 weeks gestational age
- A 57% reduction in cases of ventilator associated pneumonia
- A 43% reduction in cases of central line blood stream infections

- A 26% reduction in sepsis mortality  
“This three-year *Patient Safety First* program demonstrates that when over 180 hospitals identify a problem, utilize a common database and work collaboratively to make hospitals safer, significant progress can be made,” said J. Eugene Grigsby, III, president/CEO of National Health Foundation. “Particularly impressive is that these outcomes have been achieved in spite of the fact that participating hospitals are extremely diverse; large and small, not-for profit and for profit, sectarian and non-sectarian, independent or in systems and geographically dispersed throughout California.”

The deaths and costs avoided were calculated by comparing all population data from 2012 to baseline data provided by the same hospitals in 2009.

PSF is distinctive in that it brings together a health plan, hospital associations, a nonprofit organization and private and public hospitals as partners in an effort to improve care, health outcomes and reduce health care costs. The collaborative is open to both hospitals in and outside of Anthem's network, and because the improvements are made at the hospital level, benefits are not exclusive to Anthem members.

For a copy of the report, please visit [http://www.nhfca.org/psf/docs/760.NHF\\_EndOfYearReport\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.nhfca.org/psf/docs/760.NHF_EndOfYearReport_FINAL.pdf).

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## Associate Member Luncheon On for Sept. 19

The annual HASC Associate Member Luncheon is scheduled for Sept. 19 at the HASC Los Angeles offices. Each year this event provides an opportunity for HASC's associate members to hear directly from the executives in the organization about

what is happening in the health care industry. Past speakers have included the organization's president/CEO, the executive vice president and others. This exclusive networking lunch also offers one-on-one time with key HASC staff mem-

bers.

For more information, please visit [www.hasc.org/special-event/hasc-associate-members-luncheon](http://www.hasc.org/special-event/hasc-associate-members-luncheon).

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## Register Today for 5th Annual Administrative Professionals Forum

[Online registration](#) for the 2013 HASC Administrative Professionals Forum, Sept. 20, is now open. Hosted at the HASC Los Angeles offices, this event provides a forum for executive and administrative assistants who provide support to executives within a hospital/health system C-suite to get updates about the hot topics of the day,

to hear from experts on enhancing performance during the workday, and to network with peers in the region.

Join this informative discussion with topics that include:

- Health care industry updates - HASC staff
- Wellness – Sodexo

- Work station ergonomics - Laura Guerra & Team Humanscale
- For more information, please visit [www.hasc.org/special-event/5th-annual-administrative-professionals-forum](http://www.hasc.org/special-event/5th-annual-administrative-professionals-forum).

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## Join Performance Improvement Professionals at SHIP Mixers

Meet and mingle with performance improvement professionals at the next Society for Healthcare Improvement Professionals (SHIP) chapter meetings in the Inland Empire and Los Angeles.

The SHIP chapter meetings offer opportunities to gain new insight into Lean practices in a fun social setting. SHIP is a unique virtual community dedicated to professional development of performance improvement, Lean and Six Sigma health care professionals from across the coun-

try. Current chapters include Los Angeles, Inland Empire, Portland and Tennessee. Membership is free.

### Upcoming Local Meetings:

*August 21, 6:30-9 p.m.*  
*Parkview Community Hospital*  
*3865 Jackson Street*  
*Riverside, CA 92503*

*September 19, 6-8 p.m.*  
*Kaiser Permanente – South Bay*

*South Bay Medical Center*  
*Administration*  
*25825 S. Vermont Ave.*  
*Harbor City, CA 90710*

To inquire about these meetings, or about starting a chapter in your area, please contact Dominique Diaz, (213) 538-0732, [ddiaz@hasc.org](mailto:ddiaz@hasc.org).

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## Recent Events: New Hospital Opens in Inland Region

The new Temecula Valley Hospital unveiled its facility at a community celebration on Aug. 10.

With 140 private patient rooms, emergency care, high-tech surgery suites and advanced diagnostic technology, Temecula Valley Hospital will serve the community in an area that has lacked a hospital previously, and will help improve the shortage of hospital beds within the Inland Empire.

Temecula Valley Hospital is owned and operated by a subsidiary of Universal Health Services, Inc. (UHS).

