

### SVHCD QUALITY COMMITTEE

### AGENDA WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2025

#### 5:00 pm Regular Session Held in Person:

**SVH Administrative Conference Room** 

To Participate Via Zoom Videoconferencing, use the link below: <a href="https://sonomavalleyhospital-org.zoom.us/j/99901004530?from=addon">https://sonomavalleyhospital-org.zoom.us/j/99901004530?from=addon</a>

Meeting ID: 999 0100 4530

One tap mobile +16699009128,,99901004530# US +12133388477,,99901004530# US

A CENTRA WEEK						
AGENDA ITEM	RECOMMENDATION					
In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you require special accommodations to attend a District meeting, please contact the Board Clerk, Whitney Reese, at <a href="wreese@sonomavalleyhospital.org">wreese@sonomavalleyhospital.org</a> , at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.						
MISSION STATEMENT The mission of the SVHCD is to maintain, improve, and restore the health of everyone in our community.						
1. CALL TO ORDER/ANNOUNCEMENTS	Daniel Kittleson, DDS					
2. PUBLIC COMMENT SECTION  At this time, members of the public may comment on any item not appearing on the agenda. It is recommended that you keep your comments to three minutes or less. Under State Law, matters presented under this item cannot be discussed or acted upon by the Committee at this time. For items appearing on the agenda, the public will be invited to make comments at the time the item comes up for Committee consideration.	Daniel Kittleson, DDS					
<ul><li>3. CONSENT CALENDAR</li><li>Minutes 01.22.25</li></ul>	Daniel Kittleson, DDS	Action				
4. SURGICAL SERVICES QA/PI	Kelli Cornell, RN	Inform				
5. QUALITY INDICATOR PERFORMANCE & PLAN	Jessica Winkler, DNP, RN, NEA- BC, CCRN	Inform				
6. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	Jessica Winkler, DNP, RN, NEA- BC, CCRN	Inform				
7. CLOSED SESSION: a. Calif. Health & Safety Code §32155: Medical Staff Credentialing & Peer Review Report	Daniel Kittleson, DDS	Action				
8. ADJOURN	Daniel Kittleson, DDS					



#### SONOMA VALLEY HEALTH CARE DISTRICT QUALITY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 22, 2025, 5:00 PM

#### **MINUTES**

#### Via Zoom Teleconference

Members Present	Excused/Not Present	Public/Staff – Via Zoom
Daniel Kittleson, DDS	Kathy Beebe, RN PhD	Jessica Winkler, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, CCRN-K, CNO
Wendy Lee Myatt		Whitney Reese, Board Clerk
Carl Speizer, MD		John Hennelly, CEO
Howard Eisenstark, MD		Marylou Ehret, MSN, RN OCN
Michael Mainardi, MD		Leslie Petersen, ED SVH Foundation
Carol Snyder		
Susan Kornblatt Idell		
Paul Amara, MD, FACOG, via zoom		

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1. CALL TO ORDER/ANNOUNCEMENTS	Daniel Kittleson, DDS	
	Kittleson called meeting to order at 5:01pm.	
2. PUBLIC COMMENT SECTION	Daniel Kittleson, DDS	
	No public comments	
3. CONSENT CALENDAR Minutes 10.23.24	Daniel Kittleson, DDS	ACTION
	Motion to approve by Eisenstark, 2'	nd by Lee Myatt. All in favor.
4. EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT REPORT	Marylou Ehret, MSN, RN OCN Jessica Winkler, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, CCRN-K, SVH CNO	INFORM

Winkler and Ehret covered various aspects of the Emergency Department operations, including patient survey data, staffing changes, and quality improvement efforts. There was a focus on wait times, patient perceptions, and the correlation between ER staffing adjustments and improved patient flow. Concerns about ambulance offload times were addressed, highlighting Sonoma Valley Hospital's efficiency compared

to county benchmarks, but also acknowledging ongoing challenges in transferring patients to higher-level care facilities due to ambulance availability and logistical constraints. Additionally, a collaboration with Sonoma Fire Department was discussed, detailing recent training exercises involving mock emergency scenarios, including precipitous births, to enhance staff preparedness. The conversation underscored the complexities of ED operations and the continuous efforts to improve efficiency, patient satisfaction, and emergency response protocols.

#### 5. LEAPFROG SURVEY EXAMINATION | Jessica Winkler, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, CCRN-K, SVH CNO | INFORM

Winkler presented details regarding the latest Leapfrog Survey rating, which SVH had not participated in but were still ranked and had a reduced grade from previous years. It was noted that Leapfrog relies on self-reported data rather than independent audits, raising concerns about the accuracy and fairness of its ratings. Second, participation requires a financial commitment ("pay to play"), which may not provide a clear return on investment. Third, even with high scores, it is unclear whether Leapfrog ratings significantly impact patient choice or hospital reputation. Instead, the leadership team considered alternative ways to showcase quality, such as improving transparency on the hospital's website and sharing meaningful, digestible performance metrics directly with the community. Comparisons were made with other hospitals in the region, examining factors like size, services offered, and accreditation. Concerns were raised about public perception and the need for a strategic response, including a possible letter to the editor, an FAQ on the hospital website, and increased transparency in quality data reporting. Suggestions included simplifying data for public consumption, regularly updating the website with key metrics, and providing context before linking to third-party ratings. It was emphasized that patient satisfaction and word-of-mouth remain the strongest indicators of quality, and efforts should focus on communicating the hospital's strengths clearly and proactively.

6. QUALITY INDICATOR	Jessica Winkler, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, CCRN-K, SVH CNO	INFORM
PERFORMANCE & PLAN		

Winkler presented the December review showing strong performance in mortality, infection prevention, and readmission rates, with no PSI 90 events. Stroke care met benchmarks except for two delayed TNK administrations. ER throughput was within CMS limits, and colonoscopy numbers declined but are expected to recover. Sepsis care met standards, and patient satisfaction remained high. Medication barcode scanning in the ER fell below target but did not impact accuracy. Nursing turnover was low, and efforts continue to minimize staffing-related patient transfers.

7. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	Jessica Winkler, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, CCRN-K, SVH CNO	INFORM
	No policy and procedure changes	
8. CLOSED SESSION: a. Calif. Health & Safety Code §32155: Medical Staff Credentialing & Peer Review Report	Daniel Kittleson, DDS	ACTION
	Motion to recommend to Board of Directors for approval	by Speizer, 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Eisenstark. All in favor.
9. ADJOURN	Daniel Kittleson, DDS	
	Meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm	



# PERIOPERATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

- Surgical scheduling
- Nurse navigation
- Pre-operative
- Post-operative
- Outpatient infusion
- Operating room
- Sterile processing

43 FTEs



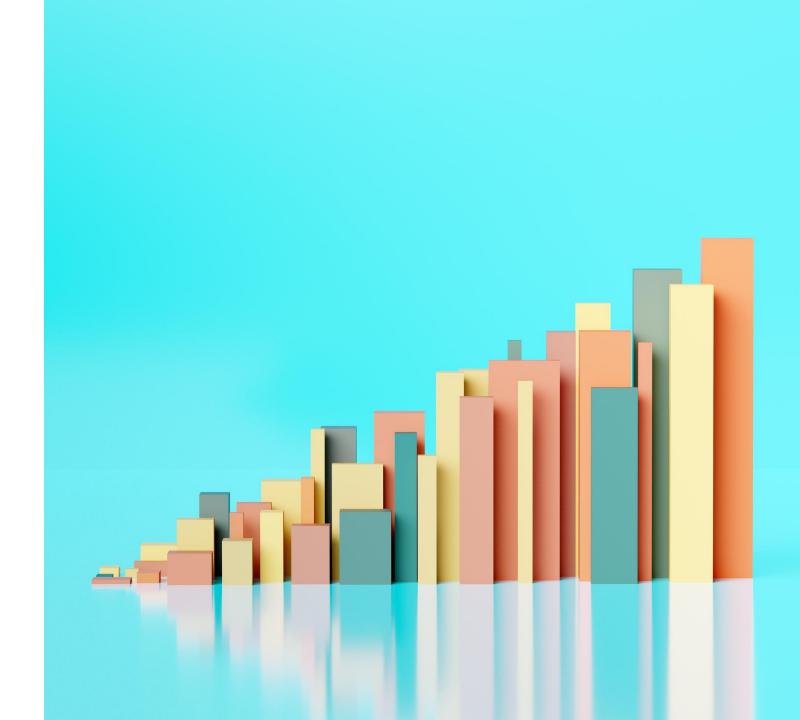
# 2024 REVIEW

- Feb: Dr. Brown performed his last case, (350 cases per year)
- August: Dr. Walter performed his first case (68 cases in 2024)
- August/September: Hired coordinator/charge nurses to oversee the day-to-day operations of the ACU and OR units.
- October: Dr. Kidd performed her last case. (243 cases in 2024)
- December: fully staffed 43 FTEs

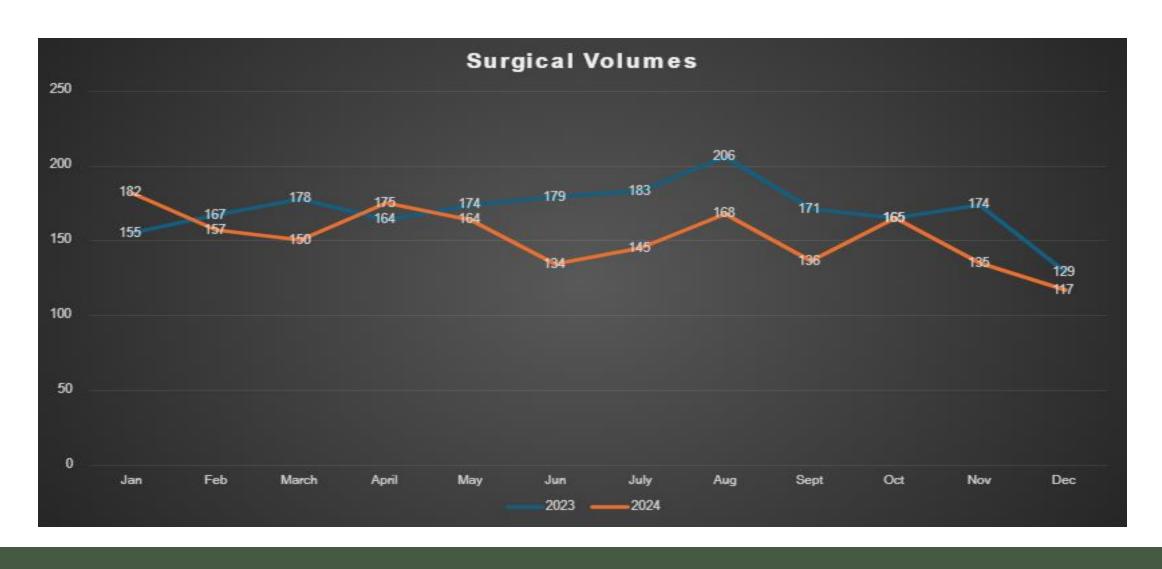


# SURGICAL VOLUME 2024

- ■Total Procedures Preformed in 2024: 1,828
- •Compared to 2023: 2,048
- This is only 217 less.



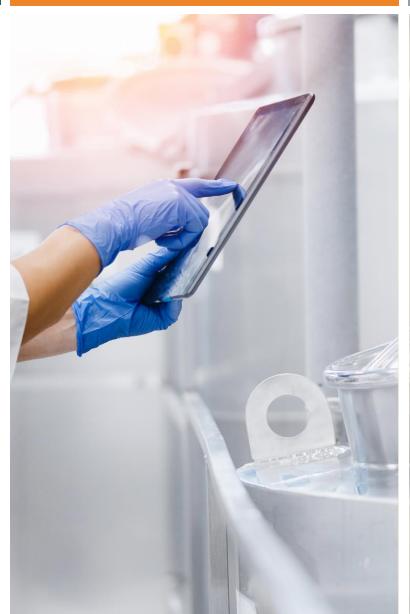
# Volumes 2023 vs 2024



# Quality

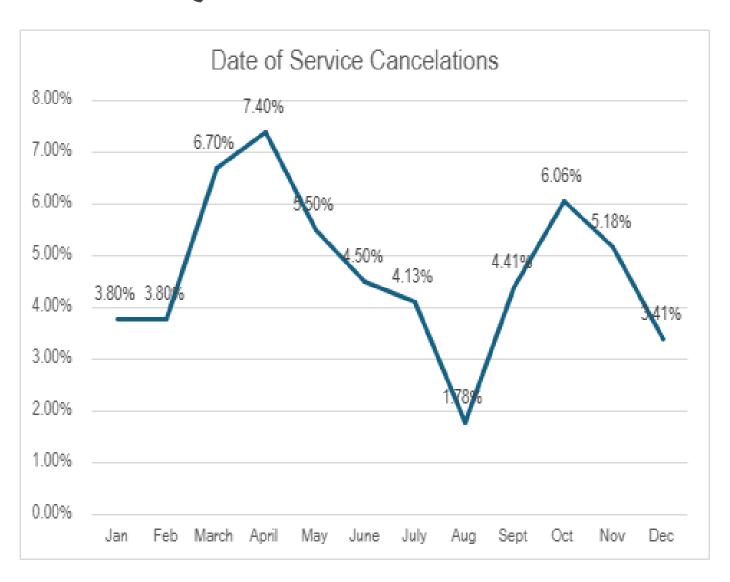
## Metrics Tracked in 2024:

- Same day cancelations
- Turnover times
- On time starts





# **QUALITY METRICS 2024**



# **QUALITY METRICS**



National benchmarks 20 to 45 minutes Median turnover time of 28.5 minutes, 95th percentile achieving 21.4 minutes.

At SVH our monthly average turnover times range between 11-16 minutes.

# **QUALITY METRICS**



Benchmarks:

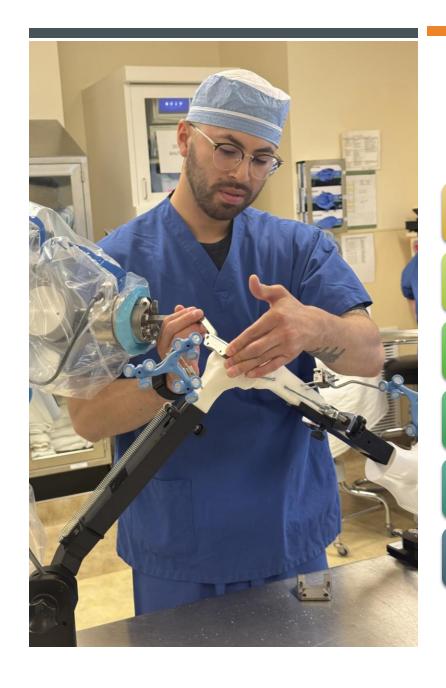
High performing organizations aim for 90% or better Median 64.3%



# WHAT'S NEW?

- Dr. Walter: Started 8/2024, has preformed 100 cases
- New Plastic surgeon on the horizon, Dr. Ordon
- New general surgeon Dr. Bir





## ROSA ORTHOPEDIC ROBOT

Total Knee Replacements

Total Hip Replacements

3D anatomical models based on X-rays

Precision

Accuracy

Enhanced recovery

# **ROSA**

Go live was 1/27/25

Total Knee and Total Hip replacements

5 Successful Robotic Total Joints replaced in 1 st month









# What's next:

# Quality Tracking





## **Sterile Processing**

IUSS Cycle Tracking Endoscope repairs



## **Operating Room**

Timeout compliance
In-Brief compliance
Continue 2024 metrics



## Post -op

SCD usage post op Post-op pain



# 2025 A YEAR OF GROWTH!

- At least 2 new surgeons coming soon
- New plastic surgery and ENT service lines
- Robotics program

# Quality Indicator Performance & Plan

**Board Quality Presentation for February 2025** 

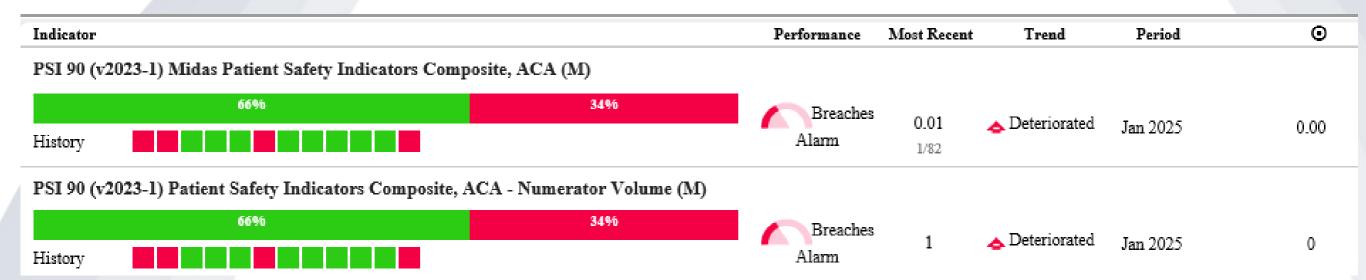
Data For January 2025



# Mortality

Indicator		Performance	Most Recent	Trend	Period	⊚
Acute Care Mortality Rate (M)						
75%	25%	Breaches	7.29/	. Deterioreted		
History		Alarm	7.2% 6/83	♠ Deteriorated	Jan 2025	5.0%
COPD Mortality Rate  M						
75%	25%	Target	0.09/	N. C1		
History		Met	0.0%	- No Change	Jan 2025	8.5%
Congestive Heart Failure Mortality Rate  M						
100%		Target		37 60		
History		Met	0.0%	- No Change	Jan 2025	11.5%
Pneumonia Mortality Rate  M						
91%	9%	Target	0.0%	- Insuranced	7 2025	15.60/
History		Met	0/14	Improved	Jan 2025	15.6%
Ischemic Stroke Mortality Rate  M						
100%		Target	0.0%	- No Change	I 2025	13.8%
History		Met	0/1	— 110 Change	Jan 2025	13.8%
Hemorrhagic Stroke - Mortality Rate (M)						
896 9296		Target	n/a		Jan 2025	0.0%
History		Undefined	22		Vali 2023	0.070
epsis, Severe - Mortality Rate (M)						
83%	17%	Breaches	25.0%	♠ Deteriorated	Jan 2025	25.09/
istory story		Alarm	1/4	& Deteriorated	Jan 2023	25.0%
eptic Shock - Mortality Rate (M)						
50% 34%	16%	Breaches	42.9%	▲ Deteriorated	Jan 2025	25.09/
listory listory		Alarm	3/7		Jail 2023	25.0%
						HEALING HER

# **AHRQ Patient Safety Indicators**

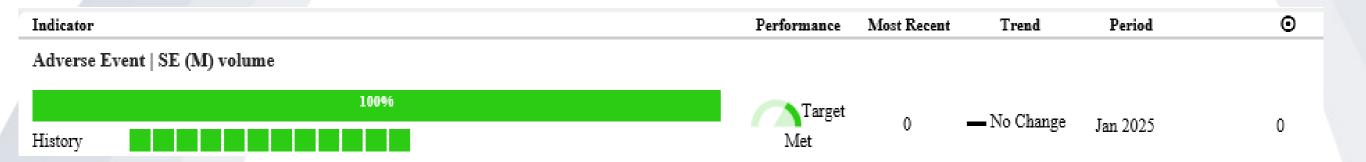


# One PSI 90 event in January

- Post-op complications: complicated emergent ortho pt developed a pulmonary emboli post-op
- CMS Patient Safety & Adverse Events Composite is a summary of varying patient safety events across multiple indicators, monitors performance over time, and facilitates comparative reporting and quality improvement. (<a href="https://www.cms.gov/priorities/innovation/files/fact-sheet/bpciadvanced-fs-psi90.pdf">https://www.cms.gov/priorities/innovation/files/fact-sheet/bpciadvanced-fs-psi90.pdf</a>)



# **Adverse Events Reporting**

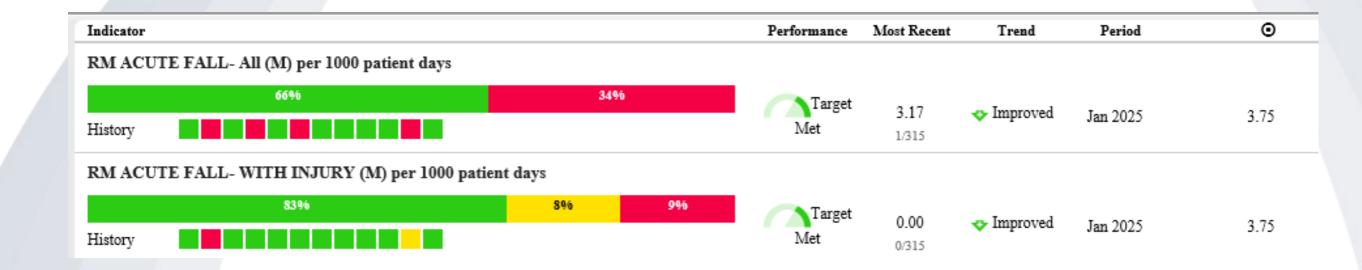


# No adverse events

(Severe/Sentinel events; Not PSI 90 events)



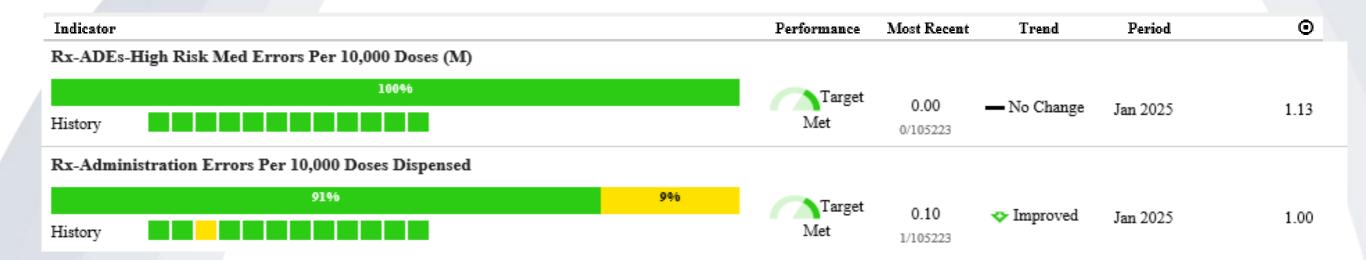
# **Patient Falls**



Fall rates below target.



# Significant Medication Errors: High Risk Meds and Administration Errors



- No High Risk Medication Errors
- Administration Error Rate below target



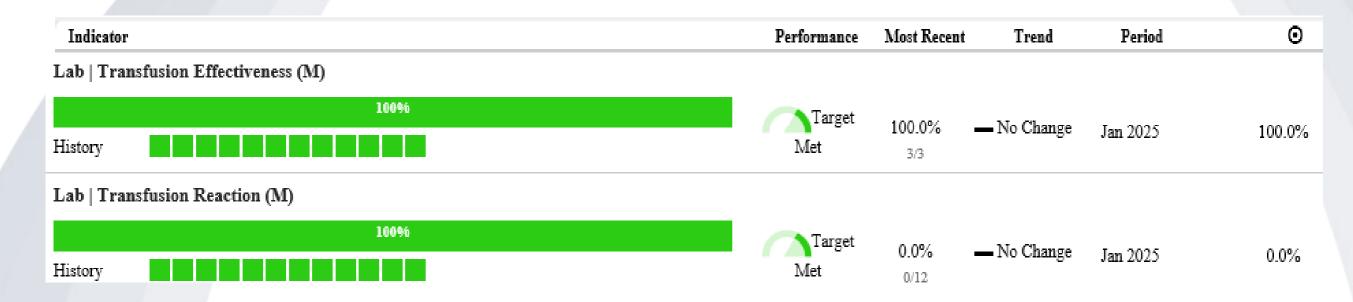
# Infection Prevention

Indicator				Performance	Most Recent	Trend	Period	⊚
IC-Surveil	llance  HAI-C.DIFF Inpatient infections per 10k	pt days  M						
	75%	17%	8%	Target				4.000
History				Undefined	n/a		Jan 2025	1.000
IC-Surveil	llance  HAI-CAUTI Inpatient infections per 10k	patient days  M						
	91%		996	Target	0	- No Change	T 2025	
History				Met	v	— No change	Jan 2025	1
IC-Surveil	llance  HAI-CLABSI Inpatient infections per 101	k patient days  M	[]					
	100%			Target	0	- No Change	T 2025	
History				Met	U	— No Change	Jan 2025	1
IC-Surveil	llance  HAI-MRSA Inpatient infections per 10k	patient days  M						
	100%			Target		- No Change	T 2025	
History				Met	0	— No Change	Jan 2025	1
IC-Surveil	llance  HAI-SSI infections per 10k pt days  M							
	100%			Target		No Chango	T 2025	
History				Met	0	- No Change	Jan 2025	1
QA-02   Ha	and Hygiene Practices Monitored  M							
	91%		9%	Target	98%	A Improved	I 2025	000/
History				Met	49/50	♠ Improved	Jan 2025	90%

No HAI, hand hygiene at target goal



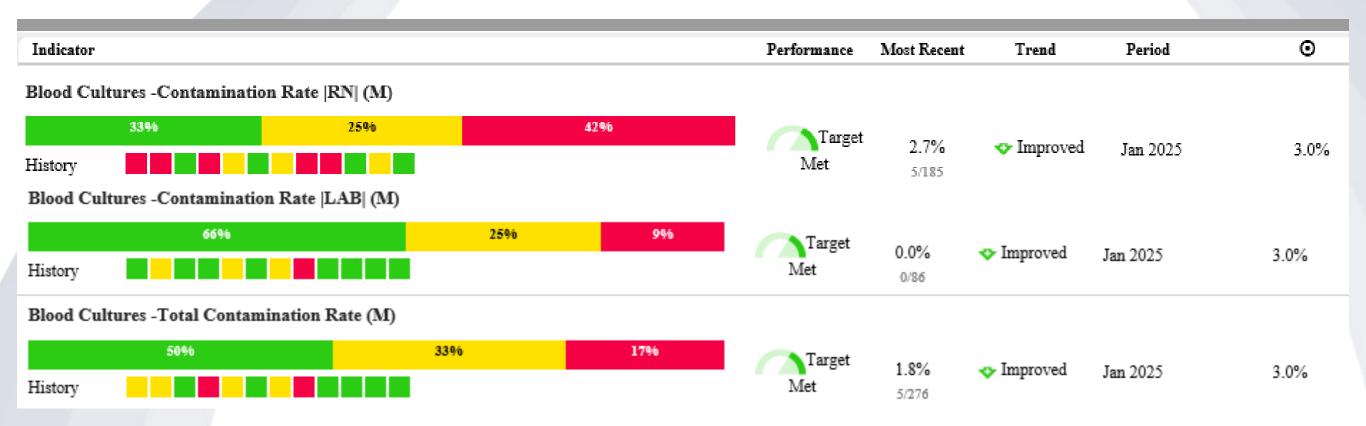
# **Blood Products: Transfusions**



Transfusions effective; no transfusion reactions



# **Blood Culture Contamination**



Total of 5 contaminated out of 276 samples (n.b. the RN rate only reflects RNs in the ED)



# **CIHQ Stroke Certification Measures**

Indicator		Performance	Most Recent	Trend	Period	0
CDSTK-03 Median- Code Stroke Called [M] elapsed time (mins)						
100%		Target	1	Improved	Jan 2025	10
History History		Met		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	Jan 1013	
CDSTK-04 Median- Door to Phys Eval  M  minutes						
100%		Target	0	Improved	Jan 2025	10
History History		Met		•		
CDSTK-05 Median- Door to CT Scanner  M elapsed time (minutes)						
100%		Target	1	⋄ Improved	Jan 2025	25
History History		Met				
CDSTK-06 Median- Neuro Consult Contacted  M  minutes						
100%		Target	8	⋄ Improved	Jan 2025	30
History History		Met			744.171	
CDSTK-07 Median- CT Read by Radiology  M  minutes						
100%		Target	15	Improved	Jan 2025	45
History History		Met			744.2	
CDSTK-08 Median- Lab Results Posted  M  minutes						
100%		Target	20	Improved	Jan 2025	45
History History		Met		•	74417	
CDSTK-10 Median- Door to EKG Complete  M  minutes						
100%		Target	21	Improved	Jan 2025	60
History History		Met		•		
CDSTK-11 Median-Door to tPA Decision  M  minutes						
100%		Target	19	⋄ Improved	Jan 2025	60
History History		Met			7	
CDSTK-12 Median-Door to tPA  M  minutes						
25% 50%	25%	Target	48	⋄ Improved	Jan 2025	60
History		Met				Y HOSPITAL
All stroke metrics met for the month of January						Y HEALTH CARE DISTRICT

# **Utilization Management**



Case mix index is below target. Medicare adjusted LOS is appropriate, though GMLOS (raw data for all patients) is up. This is due to some challenging admissions, from both an acuity and social perspective



# Readmissions



HEALING HERE AT HOME

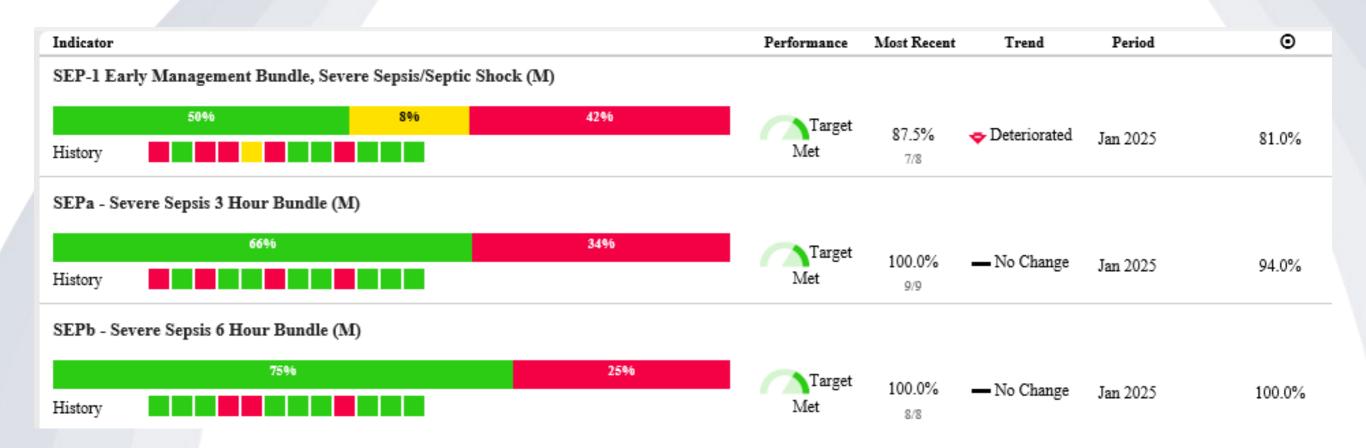


# **Core Measures**

Indicator	Performance	Most Recent	Trend	Period	•
Core OP29/ASC9 - Colonoscopy:F/U for Avg Risk Pts (M)					
100%	Target	100.007	37 60		
History History	Met	100.0% 6/6	- No Change	Jan 2025	88.0%
Core OP 18b Median Time ED Arrival to ED Departure - Reporting Measure (M)					
25% 8% 67%			B. C. C.		
History	Alarm	154.00	▲ Deteriorated	Jan 2025	132.00
Core OP 22 ED LWBS Emergency Dept Left Without Being Seen (M)					
100%	Target				
History History	Met	0.4% 4/906	▲ Deteriorated	Jan 2025	2.0%
Core OP-23 - Head CT/MRI Results for STK Pts w/in 45 Min of Arrival (M)					
50%6 9%6 41%6	Target	100.09/			00.001
History	Met	100.0% 2/2		Jan 2025	80.0%



# Core Measures: Sepsis

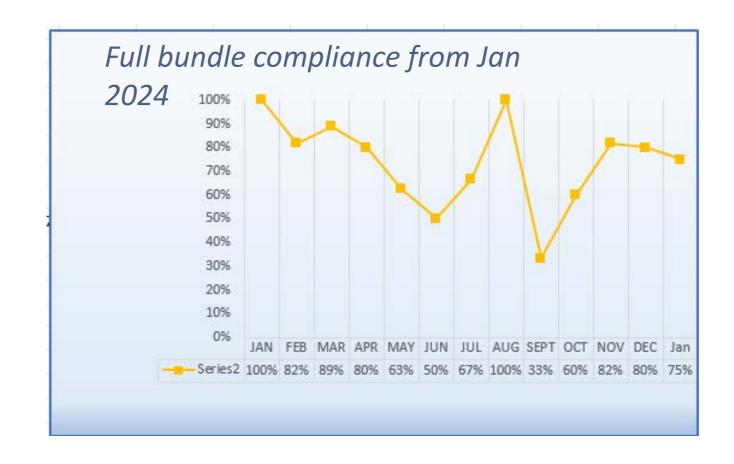






# CIHQ Corrective Action Plan Monthly Compliance Condition Level Findings: Continuous Observation of High Risk of Self Harm Patients

- 4 pts in Jan.
- 1 missed MD order
- Average LOS: 18 hours
- Age Range: 9- 67





# HCAHPS Patient Satisfaction: Inpatient Ambulatory Surgery Reported Quarterly Report for Q4 2024

(please refer to August report for Q2 & November report for Q3)





Monthly report (copy) INPATIENT

Generated: 2/18/2025 1:03 PM ET

Service Date Range: 10/1/2024 - 12/31/2024

Sonoma Valley Hospital - System (15704)

# HCA HPS Q4 2024

# Inpatient

Questions	Top Box	n	STATE CA Score	All PG Database Score
*Rate hospital 0-10	73.81	42	73.75	71.36
*Recommend the hospital	80.95	42	74.30	70.53
*Comm w/ Nurses Domain Performance	85.71	42	79.15	80.03
*Nurses treat with courtesy/respect	92.86	42	85.37	86.37
*Nurses listen carefully to you	83.33	42	76.78	77.66
*Nurses expl in way you understand	80.95	42	75.31	76.06
*Response of Hosp Staff Domain Performance	81.59	38	64.24	64.78
*Call button help soon as wanted it	75.68	37	63.65	63.29
*Help toileting soon as you wanted	87.50	24	65.08	65.81
*Comm w/ Doctors Domain Performance	85.37	42	80.28	80.28
*Doctors treat with courtesy/respect	87.80	41	85.47	86.10
*Doctors listen carefully to you	87.80	41	79.15	78.89
*Doctors expl in way you understand	80.49	41	76.21	75.87
*Hospital Environment Domain Performance	65.85	41	64.14	66.92
*Cleanliness of hospital environment	78.05	41	74.69	73.88
*Quietness of hospital environment	53.66	41	53.62	59.93
*Comm About Medicines Domain Performance	59.80	33	63.12	61.82
*Tell you what new medicine was for	72.73	33	75.50	75.20
*Staff describe medicine side effect	46.88	32	50.61	48.35
*Discharge Information Domain Performance	92.11	38	87.91	86.93
*Staff talk about help when you left	97.37	38	86.13	85.26
*Info re symptoms/prob to look for	86.84	38	89.68	88.62
*Care Transitions Domain Performance	54.90	42	55.33	53.96
*Hosp staff took pref into account	50.00	42	50.04	48.62
*Good understanding managing health	50.00	42	53.94	53.14
*Understood purpose of taking meds	64.71	34	62.27	60.09





Monthly report (copy) OAS

Generated: 2/18/2025 1:04 PM ET

Service Date Range: 10/1/2024 - 12/31/2024 Sonoma Valley Hospital - System (15704)

# OAS CAPS Q4 2024

# **Ambulatory Surgery**

Questions	Тор Вох	n	All PG Database Score	State of California Score	
*Facility rating 0-10	89.36	47	88.29	86.94	
*Recommend the facility	86.96	46	85.39	84.60	
*Communication Domain Performance	94.32	48	92.46	91.19	
*Provided needed info re procedure	97.92	48	92.80	91.79	
*Instructions good re preparation	95.65	46	94.52	93.47	
*Procedure info easy to understand	95.83	48	93.96	93.13	
*Anesthesia info easy to understand	95.56	45	94.57	93.17	
*Anes side effect easy to understand	86.67	45	86.46	84.52	
Facility/Personal Trtment Domain Performance	96.53	48	97.18	96.35	
*Check-in run smoothly	91.67	48	95.80	94.60	
*Facility clean	100.00	48	97.97	97.36	
*Clerks and receptionists helpful	93.75	48	96.42	95.32	
*Clerks and reception courteous	93.75	48	97.70	96.92	
*Staff treat w/ courtesy, respect	100.00	48	98.10	97.60	
*Staff ensure you were comfortable	100.00	47	97.06	96.32	
*Discharge Domain Performance	99.29	48	96.93	96.37	
*Written discharge instructions	100.00	45	97.74	97.51	
*Instructions regarding recovery	95.74	47	88.14	86.33	
*Information re subsequent pain	100.00	44	98.50	98.15	
*Information re subsequent nausea	100.00	40	98.62	98.21	
*Information re subsequent bleeding	100.00	38	99.06	98.66	
*Info on response to infection	100.00	38	99.56	99.37	
Nurses Overall	90.07	48	88.91	87.95	
Nurses concern for comfort	86.96	46	89.47	88.35	
Info nurses gave to prep for proc	91.67	48	88.36	87.49	
Nurses response concerns/questions	91.49	47	88.94	88.01	
Care Provider Overall	91.44	48	84.11	81.27	
CP explanation about proc	91.67	48	84.73	82.48	
Info CP shared re how proc went	89.58	48	83.14	78.73	
CP response to concerns/questions	91.30	46	86.57	84.75	
CP expln why proc important	93.33	45	81.95	79.06	
Staff worked together care for you	97.92	48	90.13	89.23	

# Q Reviews: Rate My Hospital January 2025

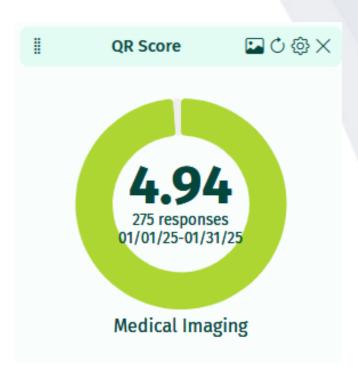
Emergency Department



Outpatient Physical Therapy



Medical Imaging

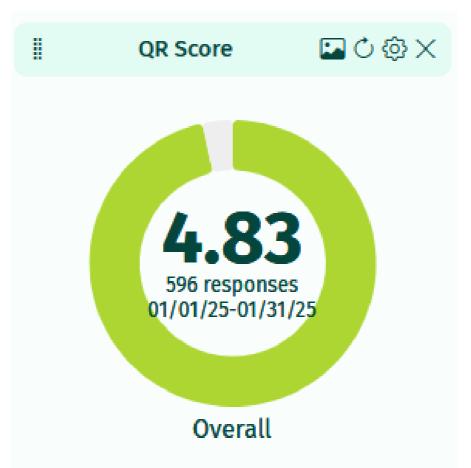




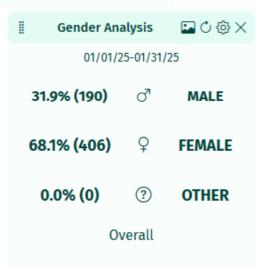
# Q Reviews: Rate My Hospital December 2024

Outpatient Surgery









Inpatient Care





#### **Document Tasks By Committee**

Listing of currently pending and/or upcoming document tasks grouped by committee.

#### Sonoma Valley Hospital

Run by: Reese, Whitney (wreese) Run date: 02/20/2025 3:43 PM

Report Parameters

Filtered by: Document Set: - All Available Document Sets -

Committee: 07 BOD-Quality (P&P Review)

Include Current Tasks: Yes Include Upcoming Tasks: No

Committee Grouped by: Sorted by: **Document Title** 

Report Statistics

**Total Documents:** 1

Committee: 07 BOD-Quality (P&P Review)

Committee Members: Finn, Stacey (sfinn), Newman, Cindi (cnewman), Reese, Whitney (wreese)

**Document** Task/Status **Pending Since Days Pending** 32 **NEW: Protocol to Reduce Ambulance Patient Offload Times Pending Approval** 1/19/2025 **Emergency Dept** 

Summary Of Changes: **New Policy** 

Ambulances and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel must be available to respond to emergencies in the community. At times, delays can occur when first responders are unable to safely offload their patient to the emergency department (ED) and provide for a safe hand off of care. The purpose of this protocol is to outline steps the ED team can take to ensure a timely transfer of care and minimal Ambulance Patient Offload Time (APOT). APOT is defined as the time interval between arrival to the ED and the time the patient is transferred into an ED gurney, bed, chair, or other appropriate location. This protocol is in compliance with California Assembly Bill 40.

Newman, Cindi (cnewman), Wyatt, Louise (lwyatt)

Moderators: Winkler, Jessica (jwinkler), Ehret, Marylou (mehret) Lead Authors:

ExpertReviewers: Medical Director-Emergency Dept.

Approvers: Winkler, Jessica (jwinkler) -> 01 P&P Committee - (Committee) -> 02 MS-Medicine Department - (Committee) -> 05 MS-

Medical Executive - (Committee) -> 07 BOD-Quality (P&P Review) - (Committee) -> 09 BOD-Board of Directors - (Committee)

HospitalPORTAL Page 1 of 1



#### **Protocol to Reduce Ambulance Patient Offload Times**

Page 1 of 3

DEPARTMENT: Emergency Department EFFECTIVE: 9/1/2024

**REVISED:** 

#### **NEW POLICY/Protocol**

Assembly Bill 40, regarding Ambulance Patient Offload Times (APOT) requires that all hospitals submit a protocol to the Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) that outlines SVH's approach to reduction of APOT.

**WHY: Protocol** needed to be compliant with AB40. Also, it supports and best practices for good patient outcomes.

OWNER:

**Chief Nursing Officer** 

#### **AUTHORS/REVIEWERS:**

Director of Emergency Services



#### **Protocol to Reduce Ambulance Patient Offload Times**

Page 2 of 3

DEPARTMENT: Emergency Department EFFECTIVE: 9/1/2024

**REVISED:** 

#### **PURPOSE:**

Ambulances and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel must be available to respond to emergencies in the community. At times, delays can occur when first responders are unable to safely offload their patient to the emergency department (ED) and provide for a safe hand off of care. The purpose of this protocol is to outline steps the ED team can take to ensure a timely transfer of care and minimal Ambulance Patient Offload Time (APOT). APOT is defined as the time interval between arrival to the ED and the time the patient is transferred into an ED gurney, bed, chair, or other appropriate location. This protocol is in compliance with California Assembly Bill 40.

#### POLICY:

When a patient is brought into the Sonoma Valley Hospital (SVH) ED via EMS, ED staff shall immediately receive and greet the patient, and direct EMS to an assigned room. When all ED rooms are full, the ED Registered Nurse performing triage will assess the patient and determine the most appropriate location for EMS to offload the patient. The goal of this hand off process is always less than thirty minutes. Should the APOT approach or exceed thirty minutes, the following protocol will be activated.

#### PROCEDURE/PROTOCOL:

- 1. The Director of Emergency Services and/or the Nursing Supervisor shall be notified immediately when ambulance off-load times are approaching or exceeding 30 minutes.
- 2. Staffing:
  - a. The inpatient units' staffing will be assessed to determine if there are available staff who may float to the ED to assist.
  - b. The surgical services department may be assessed to determine if there are available staff who may appropriately float to assist
  - c. Nursing leadership (nursing directors, managers, and/or clinical coordinators) may be called to assist in the provision of care if needed.
  - d. At the direction of the Nursing Supervisor, the staffing office will begin calling in staff
  - e. The Nursing Supervisor may engage Environmental Services staff to facilitate faster room turnover
- 3. Patient Throughput
  - a. ED patients who have admission orders may be prioritized over planned surgical admissions to the inpatient units
  - b. Critical Care admissions will be prioritized.



#### **Protocol to Reduce Ambulance Patient Offload Times**

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**REVISED:** 

c. Inpatient nursing leadership will facilitate the admission process by transporting the patient, taking ED report for the primary RN, and/or assuming care of the patient.

d. Case management may be contacted to expedite the inpatient discharge processes to make room for ED patients

#### 4. Consultations

 The admitting hospitalist may be contacted to expedite admissions and/or discharges to facilitate throughput

If an excessive APOT situation is expected to exceed 2 hours, the Policy #EP8610-102 Surge Policy to Manage Patient Influx, should be activated. The Administrator on Call will be notified.

Data on APOT is to be reviewed monthly by the Director of Emergency Services.

#### **REFERENCES:**

California State Legislature. (2023). Assembly bill 40: Emergency medical services. <u>Bill Text-AB-40 Emergency medical services</u>.

Sonoma Valley Hospital. (2022). Policy #EP8610-102: Surge policy to manage patient influx.

#### OWNER:

**Chief Nursing Officer** 

#### **AUTHORS/REVIEWERS:**

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Medicine Committee:
Medical Executive Committee:
The Board of Directors: