



MANITOBA INSTITUTE FOR PATIENT SAFETY OFFERS SIMULATION TOOLKIT THAT HELPS PROVIDERS AND STUDENTS GAIN PATIENT SAFETY EXPERIENCE

Simulation replicates real healthcare situations without risk to actual patients

June 20, 2011 (Winnipeg, MB) – The Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety has released a new learning initiative that gives healthcare educators the tools to simulate patient safety situations that occur in health care settings.

Learn to be Safe – A Simulation Learning Experience is in a kit format. With the kit, students and practitioners can rehearse for safety. It is aimed at enhancing effective communication and collaboration within healthcare teams, including patients and their families, to improve patient safety.

Learners role play characters based on a specific patient story or are observers. The stories are based on real patient safety situations and events. Learners practice in a safe environment under the guidance of a leader.

In one scenario in the kit, Maureen Smith arrives in the emergency department of a busy city hospital by Emergency Medical Services transport from a rural hospital. It is shift change at the hospital. Staff are busy. Sharon, Maureen’s sister, who has been helping Maureen at home while she has been sick, arrives moments later to find Maureen left alone in the ED hallway. What transpires over the next short time between this patient, her advocating sister and the members of her multidisciplinary healthcare team will have a big impact on Maureen’s healthcare experience.

“To improve healthcare safety, we need to encourage excellent teamwork, effective communication and patient and family centered care,” said Laurie Thompson, executive director of MIPS. “Patient safety is not something we learn once. It is something we continually work on to improve. The kit focuses on opportunities to practice and learn important safety lessons.”

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Learn to be Safe – A Simulation Learning Experience contains:

- *Patient Safety: A Primer*, outlining core concepts and resources about patient safety;
- *A Leader's Guide* to orient leaders about simulation and the kit's resources;
- *Scenario Guides* for 2 case simulations, "Maureen's Journey", and "Gene's Story";
- *Learner's Workbooks* that prepare participants for the exercise and is for use in jotting down notes and observations during the simulation and in discussions after; and
- Character briefings, character photos, props and resources for participants to enact the simulations.

The materials are based on the safety competencies recommended by the Canadian Patient Safety Institute, interprofessional principles and competencies recommended by the Canadian Interprofessional Health Collaborative, and required organizational practices of Accreditation Canada. The Canadian Patient Safety Institute contributed funds to the Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety initiative.

The kit will be of interest to educators in healthcare profession education, healthcare service delivery and continuing professional development. The Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety will work with key individuals in education and service delivery to distribute kits. Photos of the simulation kit, a backgrounder and a copy of this article are available for your use to promote awareness of the kit within your organization at www.mips.ca/initiatives

The Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety (MIPS) promotes, coordinates and facilitates activities that have a positive impact on patient safety throughout Manitoba while enhancing the quality of health care for Manitobans.

To get more information, visit www.mbips.ca or contact the Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety at 927-6477 or admin@mbips.ca.