In the Know with HRO

ZERO HARM | 100% RELIABILITY

Reporting Safety Events in 2020

Reports must be submitted for all safety events and near misses that involve employees, patients, and any non-employees at all Valley locations. A review of the types of safety events with examples is located on the back of this newsletter. To submit a report, please go to the intranet homepage's Safety Event Reporting section on the top center part of the page and select the type of report you need to create.

SAFETY EVENT REPORTING

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Entity	Last Serious Safety Event	Last Employee Incident with Lost Time
TVH	94 days ago	35 days ago
VHC	83 days ago	8 days ago
VMG	173 days ago	92 days ago

Last Employee Sharps Injury (System-Wide): 4 days ago

Report Events Here:

- Patient and Non-Employee Safety Reporting **RL**
- Employee Work-Related Incident/Injury Reporting
- Employee Blood & Body Fluid Exposure Incident Reporting

Patient and Non-Employee Safety Reporting:

The Valley Hospital and Valley Medical Group should continue using RL Solutions to report safety events involving patients and non-employees. Instructions for entering a Safety Event Report are located on the Risk Management department page on the intranet. Once a safety event is reported through RL Solutions, it is reviewed by Risk Management. If it is identified as a possible Serious Safety Event (SSE), it is sent to the SSE Review Team and, if necessary, a Root Cause Analysis is performed. If the event is determined to not be an SSE, it is tracked for trending purposes.

Valley Home Care employees should continue reporting patient and non-employee safety events using occurrence reports on their handheld tablets on the electronic medical record, Homecare Homebase.

Employee Work-Related Illness/Injury Reporting and Employee Blood and Body Fluid Exposure Reporting:

Please follow the specific instructions posted on the Work-Related Illness/Injury and the Blood and Body Fluid Exposure reporting pages, which can be accessed through the Safety Event Reporting section of the intranet homepage or the Employee Health & Wellness department page.

- **Work-Related Illness/Injury:** Report any work-related injury or illness, no matter how small, to your supervisor immediately. Please follow the specific instructions posted on the Employee Work-Related Illness/Injury Reporting intranet page.

- **Blood & Body Fluid Exposure:** An employee with a blood or body fluid exposure must report to their supervisor, fill out the appropriate forms, and report to the ED with those completed forms no more than 2 hours after the event has occurred. Please follow the specific instructions posted on the Employee Blood & Body Fluid Exposure Reporting intranet page.

Valley Health System

Safety Events, Precursor Events, and Near Misses

Reporting safety events is an important step for detecting patient harm and improving patient safety. To review from our last HRO newsletter on reporting safety events, we classify safety events into three categories:

Near Misses: safety events that are caught before reaching the patient, resulting in no harm

- An ED patient is not medically appropriate for admission to a medical/surgical unit. The MD reevaluates and the patient is admitted to a cardiac telemetry unit instead.

- Incorrect medication dose is dispensed from the pharmacy and not administered to the patient.
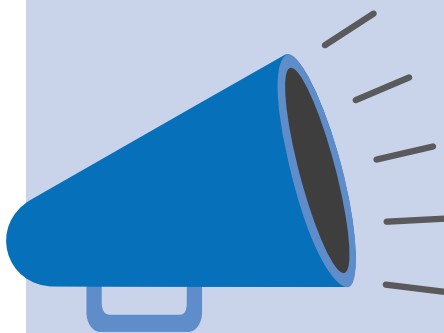
Precursor Events: safety events that reach the patient and cause minimal or no detectable harm

- A patient with an unwitnessed fall is found on the floor without injury. The bed alarm was turned off.

- A tourniquet is applied to a patient's arm for venous access. It was not removed after venipuncture and found hours later left in place.

Serious Safety Events: safety events that reach the patient and cause moderate or severe harm

- A patient ambulated to the bathroom without assistance and fell, resulting in a femur fracture and surgery.

- Diagnostic test results not read on a timely basis result in a delay in diagnosing a retinal occlusion rupture.

Speak Up for Safety!

It is still important to speak up for safety if we notice a near miss or a precursor event that has potential to cause patient harm. This can be completed by submitting a safety event report and utilizing the HRO tool C-U-S to stop the line. Reporting near misses and precursor events can help us learn from our mistakes, prevent future incidents from occurring, and enable the modification of a procedure or protocol if necessary to ensure safer care and closer-to-zero harm.