

# Beacon

## The Bay Area Patient Safety Collaborative

### Background Summary

According to the Institute of Medicine, the U.S. healthcare system has not yet achieved its goals of providing safe, effective, timely and patient-centric care. Hospitals are increasingly challenged in meeting these goals, as they face more acutely ill patients, an aging population and rapid technological advancements. At the same time, hospital work processes and organizational culture are not consistently focused on positive patient outcomes. As a result, avoidable medical errors claim up to 98,000 lives in U.S. hospitals every year and result in serious complications for many more patients.

### Working Together to Improve Care and Save Lives

To improve hospital care and prevent errors, the Betty Irene Moore Nursing Initiative (BIMNI) is working to broaden the use of evidence-based best practices in San Francisco Bay Area hospitals. One of the programs supported by BIMNI to accelerate adoption of these best practices is Beacon, The Bay Area Patient Safety Collaborative, formerly known as BAPSC, the Bay Area Patient Safety Collaborative. Launched in July 2005, Beacon is comprised of Bay Area hospital executives, mid- and upper-level managers, and frontline staff from multiple clinical disciplines.

The initial focus of Beacon was Bay Area hospital implementation of the 100,000 Lives Campaign, a nationwide effort led by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement to improve patient care and prevent avoidable deaths. As the Bay Area Patient Safety Collaborative, Beacon encouraged Bay Area hospitals to commit to the national campaign and provided participating hospitals with access to expert faculty and opportunities to learn from each other by sharing both success stories and solution ideas.

To date, BIMNI has provided \$2.2 million in funding to support Bay Area implementation of the 100,000 Lives Campaign and to launch Beacon. This funding includes implementation grants to 20 Bay Area hospitals. Currently, 33 hospitals in the Bay Area are actively participating in the collaborative. Through peer-to-peer sharing and access to experts, Beacon has been successful in assisting hospitals in improving how they care for patients; 95 percent of participants reported that they received practical information from the collaborative that helped them implement the 100,000 Lives Campaign initiatives.

### Looking Forward

Participating hospitals have now implemented some or all of the campaign's initiatives—all proven to prevent avoidable deaths:

- Deploy rapid response teams at the first sign of patient emergencies
- Deliver reliable, evidence-based care for heart attack patients ensuring the delivery of every recommended medication and treatment.
- Prevent adverse drug events by implementing medication reconciliation processes

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- Prevent hospital-acquired infections (central line-associated bloodstream infections, surgical site infections, and ventilator-associated pneumonia) by implementing procedures which are shown to reduce risk for these infections

Going forward, BIMNI plans to continue supporting Beacon and its efforts to:

- Support Bay Area hospitals in implementing evidence-based best practices
- Provide training to leadership and frontline staff in the science and tools of quality improvement
- Disseminate local and national programs that have demonstrated success in strengthening multi-disciplinary teamwork and in focusing organizations on continuously improving patient care