AANA Partners with the Patient Safety Movement Foundation

Every year, more than 4.8 million people worldwide suffer from preventable medical errors. More than 200,000 of these patients die in U.S. hospitals, which is more than deaths from car accidents, AIDS, and diabetes combined. In response, the AANA has partnered with the Patient Safety Movement Foundation (PSMF) to work globally toward eliminating preventable patient deaths in hospitals. This aligns with the AANA’s motto of “Safe and Effective Anesthesia Care for Every Patient,” as CRNAs are on the front lines of patient care and serve as patient safety advocates and change agents wherever they work.

“We believe the best way to improve patient safety is through mutual learning and a collaborative effort,” said Randall Moore, DNP, MBA, CRNA, AANA CEO. “Therefore, the AANA looks forward to joining more than 80 professional societies and associations, healthcare-related organizations, and patient advocacy groups that have partnered with PSMF to make healthcare safer.”

More than 4,600 hospitals in 46 countries have committed to implement the PSMF’s Actionable Patient Safety Solutions (APSS), resulting in an estimated 90,146 lives reported saved last year alone. The APSS serve as an effective tool to help guide healthcare professionals toward practices that decrease preventable patient deaths in hospitals. The APSS include 18 challenges and 30+ solutions designed to overcome patient safety issues, including Airway Safety, Medication Safety, Monitoring for Opioid-Induced Respiratory Depression, and Hand-off Communications.

“We’re excited to have AANA join the Patient Safety Movement,” said Dr. David Mayer, PSMF CEO. “It will require a collaborative effort from all stakeholders to help us achieve our goal of ZERO preventable patient deaths. We need to move with urgency as the number of deaths we experience today is not acceptable.”

CRNAs care for patients at all acuity levels across a variety of settings, putting them in position to make a maximum impact on patient safety. AANA President Kathryn (Kate) Jansky, MHS, CRNA, APRN, USA LTC(ret) indicates, “The AANA is honored to be a partner of the Patient Safety Movement Foundation. Patient safety is the top priority for all CRNAs and AANA looks forward to working with the PSMF, other initiative partners, and our members to attain the goal of zero preventable deaths through the development of innovative solutions, relationship building, and ongoing collaboration.”

How can CRNAs be a part of the movement?
1. Visit https://patientsafetymovement.org/ to learn more about the PSMF, their mission and vision to reduce the number of preventable deaths in hospitals to ZERO, and their available APSS and resources.
2. Sign up with the PSMF website, sign their commitment to action, and spread their mission, vision, and resources. Follow and share resources on social media from PSMF (@0X2020) and AANA (@aanawebupdates).
3. Review the full list of APSS and discuss the commitment process with your hospital administration. Encourage your facility to implement relevant APSS to help eliminate preventable deaths. Your hospital can make a commitment around one or multiple APSS.
4. Participate in the PSMF APSS workgroups and act as a subject matter expert contributing to the development or update of aligned topics. To volunteer as a subject matter expert, visit the PSMF's website and fill out the workgroup interest form here: https://patientsafetymovement.org/actionable-solutions/apss-workgroups/. If you are seated on an APSS workgroup, inform AANA Research Analyst Alyssa Rojo, MSN, RN at arojo@aana.com.

Preventable deaths can be eliminated, but this requires a collaborative multidisciplinary effort by healthcare stakeholders, including clinicians, administrators, healthcare societies and associations, other healthcare-related organizations, and patient advocates. Partnering with the PSMF is one more step AANA has taken to bring awareness to a wider audience of stakeholders that CRNAs are leaders in patient safety. With this partnership, CRNAs now have the valuable resources and tools of the APSS to lead quality initiatives and improve patient safety within their facilities.

Resources