



PSO Monthly Brief

May 2011

Who's On Your Team?

Patient Safety Organizations (PSOs) were established to provide “new organizations that can work with clinicians and healthcare organizations to identify, analyze, and reduce the risks and hazards associated with patient care.” PSOs serve as independent, external experts for collecting, analyzing, and aggregating patient safety work product to develop insights into the underlying causes of patient safety events. Federal legal protections allay fears of liability related to the collection, sharing, and analysis of patient safety events.

So how should an organization choose the PSO that best meets the needs of their organization? Develop a team to explore potential PSOs using a systematic approach. It is important that the team considers what is essential to the organization as it provides a comprehensive exploration of potential PSOs. Look no further than the organization’s current interdisciplinary representatives. Consider including:

- ▶ Legal: Chief Compliance Officers, Legal counsel
- ▶ Clinical: Physicians, nurses, pharmacists, clinical engineers
- ▶ Operational/management team: COOs, CMOs, CNOs, CEOs, CFOs, CIOs, Patient Safety Officers, Quality Directors, Risk Managers
- ▶ Information Technology: IT Directors, Data Managers

This team will help your organization assess and implement the best possible solution for aggregate collection, analysis, identification of potential patient safety concerns, feedback, implementation tools, and lessons learned.

So, is your organization ready to accelerate patient safety? Who's on your team?

ECRI Institute PSO's program team comprises an interdisciplinary staff of 350 individuals with patient safety, quality and risk management, clinical, legal, information technology, education, engineering, and science backgrounds.



How Can We Help You?

Whether you have questions about the final rule or want to learn more about ECRI Institute PSO and/or support for other PSOs, we would be happy to hear from you. Please contact ECRI Institute at pso@ecri.org or call (610) 825-6000, ext. 5558.