



PSO Monthly Brief

July 2013

PSO Participation: The time is now to be ready for ACA requirement

Last month, we spoke about the benefits of reporting to a patient safety organization (PSO). However, there is an additional reason to consider and prepare for external reporting.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (ACA) mandates participation in a PSO. While the Act speaks about the importance of patient safety throughout the 906-page document, it specifically requires that hospitals with at least 50 beds participate in a PSO in order to contract with Health Insurance Marketplaces (also known as health insurance exchanges).

Starting in January 2015, a hospital with 50 or more beds can only participate in an exchange if the hospital has a patient safety evaluation system (PSES) in place. This PSES must be as described in the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act and PSO rules and regulations. Health Insurance Marketplaces or exchanges provide the uninsured with the ability to obtain insurance coverage from participating qualified health plans (see ACA, Part II, Sec. 1311. Affordable Choices of Health Benefit Plans).

Therefore, your hospital should prepare by:

- ▶ Establishing plans for joining a PSO.
- ▶ Reviewing your budgets and carefully reviewing your contracts with managed care organizations and insurers to ensure that deadlines and requirements are met.
- ▶ Working with your PSO to establish a PSES.
- ▶ Sharing this PSO Brief with your hospital chief financial officer, chief operating officer, chief executives, chief patient safety, risk and quality leaders, and directors of managed care contracting.

Contact us at pso@ecri.org or call (610) 825-6000, ext. 5558, and let us demonstrate how ECRI Institute PSO can help you.



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.