



Illinois Health and Hospital Association

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 7, 2023

Contact: Paris Ervin
(217) 541-1153
pervin@team-iha.org

OSF HealthCare Sacred Heart Medical Center and Fairfield Memorial Hospital Awarded 2023 Patient Safety Champion Awards by Midwest Alliance for Patient Safety PSO

NAPERVILLE – The Midwest Alliance for Patient Safety (MAPS) Patient Safety Organization (PSO) announced the recipients of two MAPS PSO Patient Safety Champion awards in recognition of extraordinary efforts to improve patient safety in healthcare.

The 2023 Patient Safety Champion individual award was presented to Tessa Pacion, RN, a registered nurse in the emergency department at OSF HealthCare Sacred Heart Medical Center in Danville. Pacion was nominated by Clayton Overstreet, MBA, BSN, RN, CPPS, Quality and Safety Manager at OSF HealthCare Sacred Heart Medical Center.

Pacion was honored for identifying a potential look-alike/sound-alike (LASA) medication and going the extra mile to ensure that not only her patient received the right medication, but subsequent patients would as well. LASA medications are problematic for every healthcare organization. Because of their similar looking names and/or appearance, they have a propensity to be confused which can lead to patient harm. Pacion noticed the LASA medication, obtained the correct medication, and administered it to the patient. She then contacted the pharmacy to request that the two LASA medications be moved to a separate location in the medication dispensing system to prevent future incidents. The two medications are now in different locations.

For the 2023 Patient Safety Champion team award, the MAPS PSO committee honored the following emergency department (ED) staff members at Fairfield Memorial Hospital in Fairfield:

- Bobby Bridgeman, CPhT
- Merri Corbett-Mercer, EMT-P
- Rachel Jennings, RN, BSN
- Dawn Murbarger RN, EMT-P, LI
- Hattie Schoepf, RN
- Jennifer Young, RN

The Fairfield Memorial Hospital ED team was recognized for observing the plunger of a 3 cubic centimeter syringe had extra adhesive that was being pulled down into a syringe, which could have been injected into a patient and caused harm. After this finding, multiple syringes in the lot were tested and found to have the same issue. All syringes were removed from stock, and the manufacturer was immediately contacted with

the finding. Due to the attention of the ED team, potential harm was prevented to incoming patients. The ED team was nominated by Luke McDaniel, Chief Quality Officer at Fairfield Memorial Hospital.

The awards were presented by MAPS, an Illinois Health and Hospital Association (IHA) company, at the MAPS PSO Annual Culture of Safety Workshop in November.

MAPS PSO Patient Safety Champion Program

Federally certified since 2010, MAPS PSO assists its members with the important work of reducing adverse events so they can provide a safer healthcare experience for their patients. As part of its commitment to member excellence, MAPS established the Patient Safety Champion Program to highlight and reward members' commitment to patient safety.

"IHA and MAPS are proud to congratulate this year's awardees from OSF HealthCare Sacred Heart Medical Center and Fairfield Memorial Hospital for their steadfast commitment to prevent harm and improve patient safety," said IHA President and CEO A.J. Wilhelmi. "The extraordinary work happening at these hospitals showcases the integrity and dedication of the Illinois healthcare community to provide a safer healthcare experience for their patients."

MAPS PSO has a vital role in coordinating adverse event reporting and aggregating the data to drive collaboration and change. MAPS PSO members use this information to guide their efforts to improve care. MAPS PSO members include Midwestern health systems, hospitals, Critical Access Hospitals, physicians groups, long-term care and specialty outpatient clinics. Each benefits from the security of a protected PSO environment to collect, analyze, and learn from adverse event data and best practices.

To learn more about MAPS PSO, visit www.alliance4ptsafety.org.

###

About the Midwest Alliance for Patient Safety

The [Midwest Alliance for Patient Safety \(MAPS\)](http://www.alliance4ptsafety.org) is a federally listed Patient Safety Organization (PSO) aligned with the Illinois Health and Hospital Association (IHA). Since 2010, its mission has been to promote the adoption of best practices by Midwestern healthcare organizations to improve the delivery of safe and quality care to all patients. As a non-profit organization, MAPS strives to position itself as the leading provider-sponsored PSO. Based in Naperville, Illinois, MAPS provides the opportunity to exceed standards of quality of care by providing expert clinical staff and strong programs and services focused on patient safety education, strong member PSO operations and performance improvement.

About IHA

The Illinois Health and Hospital Association, with offices in Chicago, Naperville, Springfield and Washington, D.C., advocates for Illinois' more than 200 hospitals and nearly 40 health systems as they serve their patients and communities. IHA members provide a broad range of services—not just within their walls, but across the continuum of healthcare and in their communities. Reflecting the diversity of the state, IHA members consist of non-profit, investor-owned and public hospitals in the following categories: community, safety net, rural, critical access, specialty and teaching hospitals, including academic medical centers. For more information, see team-iha.org. Like IHA on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/IHA). Follow IHA on [X](https://twitter.com/IHA), formerly Twitter.

###