



AUGUST 2025 Vol. 25, No. 8

OPTIMA EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Webinar:

"ISMP Targeted Medication Safety Best Practices"
August 21, 2025 @ 10:00 - 11:00 am (Pacific Time)

Optima 2025 Education Calendar

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ADMINISTRATION

ROI-Q Report (National Association for Healthcare Quality, June 2, 2025)

For the first time ever, NAHQ has quantified the financial return on investing in quality and patient safety (ROI-Q) refuting the false choice that quality must come at the expense of reducing cost. In fact, it demonstrates that the opposite is true: investing in the workforce to advance quality and safety produces impressive ROI-Q. Read more...

AMBULATORY SURGERY CENTERS

CMS 2024 Deficiency Trends and Lessons for ASC's and Hospitals (Inside Accreditation & Quality, June 24, 2025)

CMS survey data from 2024 paints a clear picture for ambulatory surgery centers (ASC) on what to look out for: Persistent gaps in infection control, sanitation, documentation, and governance continue to trigger citations across the country. Read more...

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

Upcoming Webinar: Diagnostic Errors in the ER (California Society for Healthcare Risk Management August 8, 2025)

Common risk management issues that contribute to claims will be explored in the context of the ED as well as risk management strategies that can help to reduce the risk of ER claims in this fast-paced unique environment, with a focus on Diagnostic Errors in the ER. Register here...

FALL PREVENTION

Fall Prevention Programs (ECRI, June 4, 2025)

Falls remain an ongoing challenge across healthcare settings and continue to be the leading cause of fatal and nonfatal injury for older adults. ECRI's Updated Self-Assessment can help your organization understand how to mitigate and manage falls, assess your organization's current falls program, and educate staff on fall prevention and response. Read more....

INFECTION PREVENTION

Preventing Catheter-Associated Bloodstream Infections (CABSI) in Adults (Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology, June 2025)

The Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) has published updated guidelines for preventing catheter-associated bloodstream infections (CABSI) in adults, expanding guidelines to include all vascular access devices used across various healthcare settings. Read here...

MEDICATION SAFETY

Upcoming: Medication Safety Intensive Workshop (Institute for Safe Medication Practices, 2025) This two-day virtual workshop is designed to help organizations successfully address current medication safety challenges that impact patient safety. The program faculty will provide you with the knowledge, as well as specific tools and resources, needed to establish and sustain an aggressive, yet focused medication safety program.

Register here...

OBSTETRICS

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Announce O&G Open (O&G Open, 2025)

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) have announced an expansion and diversification of the College's publication portfolio, with the introduction of *O&G Open*. The new journal provides readers with an open, peer-reviewed, online journal, allowing for immediate and worldwide distribution of articles focused on obstetrics and gynecology and closely related fields. Learn more...

PATIENT SAFETY & QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

Upcoming: Now Virtual! Human Factors Engineering: Systems Thinking to Enhance Patient Safety (ECRI, September 2025)

Join ECRI on September 15-19, 2025, as human factors engineers will provide foundational knowledge to understand and conduct proactive assessments and reactive near-miss and adverse event analysis from a true systems perspective.

Register here...

Joint Commission Unveils Streamlined Accreditation Process (Patient Safety & Quality Healthcare, July 2, 2025)

The Joint Commission has launched Accreditation 360: The New Standard, its new approach to healthcare accreditation and certification, which promises to streamline and simplify the accreditation process. Read more...

PEDIATRICS

Use of Chaperones for the Pediatric and Adolescent Encounter: Policy Statement (The American Academy of Pediatrics, May 19, 2025)

The presence of a chaperone during intrusive or uncomfortable examinations of sensitive body areas can optimize the patient's sense of comfort and safety, as well as protect the physician. All outpatient practices and inpatient services should develop policies addressing the situations which might prompt the need for a chaperone. Read more...

RISK MANAGEMENT

July ASHRM President's Message (ASHRM Exchange, July 9, 2025)

ASHRM President, Chris Allman, sets the summer tone with his July President's Message! Some key topics of interest include ASHRM's 2025-2027 strategic plan, the recent webinar entitled Top Ten ERM Issues, as well as upcoming ASHRM learning programs. Read more...

Immigration, Citizenship Orders Do Not Alter Patient Privacy Protections (California Hospital Association, January 30, 2025)

In January, the California Hospital Association (CHA) shared a comprehensive legal analysis of the intersections of state and federal patient privacy laws, directives, and the executive order. Read more... It is important to consult with your legal counsel on these evolving matters.

Avoiding "Never Words" in Health Care: A Guide for Risk Professionals (ASHRM Exchange, May 27, 2025)

Even well-meaning words can unintentionally harm. Learn how risk professionals can help providers replace damaging phrases with more compassionate, trust-building language that supports patient healing and safety. Read more...

TECHNOLOGY

Medical Pros Risk Malpractice Suits by Avoiding Al Innovation (Bloomberg Law, May 27, 2025)

As artificial intelligence (AI) tools are shown to be safe and effective, healthcare providers who avoid adopting them may expose themselves to liability risk. While AI use is not yet seen as a standard of care, experts say that the industry is moving in that direction. Read more...

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