Ohio Children’s Hospitals’ Serious Safety Event Rate

Serious Safety Event Rate (SSER) is Expressed as a Rolling 12 Month Average per 10,000 Adjusted Patient Days (APD)

Serious Safety Events (SSEs) are defined as deviations from standard care resulting in severe harm to patients.

Ohio Children’s Hospitals’ Solutions for Patient Safety (OCHSPS) is a non-profit corporation established to achieve our vision of making Ohio the safest place in the nation for children to receive health care. OCHSPS members include all eight of Ohio’s children’s hospitals:

- Akron Children’s Hospital
- Children’s Hospital Cleveland Clinic
- Cincinnati Children’s
- Dayton Children’s
- Mercy Children’s Hospital
- Nationwide Children’s
- Rainbow Babies & Children’s Hospital
- Promedica Toledo Children’s Hospital

Launched in January 2009, OCHSPS began as a partnership between Cardinal Health, other members of the business community and providers to improve the quality of care delivered to children in Ohio and to reduce overall health care costs.

To realize this shared vision, each of the participating hospitals committed to complete transparency and data sharing to foster an “all teach, all learn” culture. Through this unique approach, the partnership has accomplished significant results to date—a 60 percent reduction in surgical site infections in designated cardiac, neurosurgery and orthopedic procedures and a 34.5 percent reduction in overall adverse drug events. These efforts have saved more than 7,700 children from unnecessary harm and avoided $12.3 million in unnecessary health care costs since the project’s inception.

After its initial success, OCHSPS expanded its focus to eliminate all serious harm at children’s hospitals across the state. Our hospitals have begun to employ the strategies of other high reliability industries to significantly reduce serious safety events at children’s hospitals in Ohio. By transparently sharing events of harm, training all 30,000 children’s hospital employees on error prevention behaviors, and engaging CEOs and boards on quality and safety, Ohio children’s hospitals have already cut the incidence of SSEs in half.