Perceptions of Patient Safety Culture in Four Health Regions

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### Perceptions of Patient Safety Culture in Four Health Regions

In the Fall of 2005 four Health Regions in one Canadian province participated in an initiative where each organizations collected questionnaire data from staff across their region to help examine patient safety culture. This report provides a summary of the data collected as part of this initiative.

### Background

The provincial body undertook this initiative as part of its mandate to coordinate and promote activities that enhance patient safety and quality care in that Province. A variety of instruments that have been used to measure patient safety culture were examined and a decision was made to use the Modified Stanford Instrument (MSI). This instrument, initially developed by Singer, Gaba, et al., (2003), was modified by a group of Canadian researchers in 2002 and used in a study that examined the effects of a patient safety educational intervention on nurse leader perceptions of patient safety culture (Ginsburg, Norton, Casebeer, & Lewis, 2005). Since this decision to implement the MSI in these 4 provincial health Regions, a larger study has been funded by the Canadian Patient Safety Institute to more closely examine the properties of the MSI with multiple staff groups and multiple settings in several Canadian jurisdictions. This broader research, which is currently getting underway, will also examine links between patient safety culture and patient safety improvement activity.

### Subjects

The safety body worked together with each of the 4 participating health regions to identify all staff members in the region whose role linked them with patient care (either directly or indirectly). This means that all staff in each region, with the exception of support staff in administrative departments, were identified to receive the MSI Patient Safety Culture Survey. Staff were surveyed in the fall of 2005. A three-stage mailing approach was used where all identified staff received a survey in October 2005 and a reminder card two weeks after the initial mailing. A second survey was sent to all non-respondents 4 weeks after the reminder cards were sent out. This approach led to the collection of data from direct care providers, clinical care managers, direct (E.g. unit clerk) and non-direct care support staff (E.g. maintenance staff) and non-direct care managers (e.g food services supervisor). Data were collected from staff in all sectors including pre-hospital care, acute care, long term (personal) care, community care, mental health.

### Questionnaire

Staff were mailed a 36-item patient safety culture questionnaire (adapted from Singer, Gaba et al., 2003 and Ginsburg et al., 2005). The survey included items in four areas previously found to be valid, reliable, and meaningful: (1) Valuing safety at the organization and department level – 10 items; (2) Fear of repercussions – 4 items; (3) Perceived State of safety – 8 items; (4) Supervisory leadership – 4 items<sup>1</sup>. The first 3 grouping emerged from the initial Canadian Study and the 4<sup>th</sup> group was taken from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality Hospital Survey on Patient Safety Culture (AHRQ, 2005). Each of these questions were answered using a 5-point agree-disagree Likert type scale with a "not applicable" option.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The psychometric properties of the instrument were reported previously (Ginsburg et al., 2005).

The questionnaire also contained 2 items adapted from the AHRQ survey designed to provide an overall assessment of patient safety culture at the unit and regional level. These two questions were answered using an A (excellent) through F (Failing) rating scale. The questionnaire can be found in Appendix A.

#### **Response Rates**

The response rate was 30% across all 4 regions. Table 1 shows response rates by region and by staff category. For the regional response rates, the number of surveys mailed out and returned is not shown in order to protect the identity of the 4 regions that participated in the study. The number of respondents is also shown by sector and as a proportion of all responses. Response rates could not be calculated by sector as we relied on a combination of site information and respondent information to link respondents to sectors. The sector data should be interpreted with care as certain sectors are more likely to be underreported (MH and LTC) because of the way the questionnaire was structured.

	# returned/	Response
	# sent out	rate
Across Full Sample	1790/5993	30%
By Region		
Region 1		36%
Region 2		31%
Region 3		28%
Region 4		26%
By Staff Category		
Nursing	563/1656	34%
Care assistants	423/1626	26%
Allied HPs, health care technicians, EMS staff	297/966	31%
Direct Care Managers	177/297	60%
Support Staff (direct care and non-direct care areas)	261/1253	21%
	# returned in	Proportion o
	sector	respondent
		group
By Sector		
Acute Care	549	30.7%
Long Term Care	445	24.9%
Community / Out-Patient Care	435	24.3%
Pre-hospital Care	103	5.8%
Mental Health Services	56	3.1%
Acute & Community Care	160	8.9%
Corporate or unknown	42	2.3%

Table 1 - Respondents

### Using Patient Safety Culture Data to Drive Change and Improvement

Survey items reflect perceptions of the importance of patient safety on the unit and in the organization, perceptions of how safety failures are handled, the state of attitudes and knowledge regarding patient safety issues and perceptions of the state of patient safety in the organization. There are many ways to consider and approach data such as these when it comes to driving change initiatives.

- (1) Looking at high and low performance on individual survey items. It is reasonable and may be important to examine items where a fairly low proportion of staff give positive responses while at the same time celebrating those areas where an organization achieves a very high percentage of positive responses (e.g where over 80% of staff agree and strongly agree with various individual survey items).
- (2) Focusing on questions that reflect areas that are the most important to staff. Using simple correlations between individual survey items and overall ratings of patient safety can help to prioritize which items are the most important contributors to overall safety ratings from staff members' perspectives. Combining this knowledge with knowledge from (1) above can help regions focus in on areas that are particularly important and are achieving fewer positive responses.
- (3) Benchmarking Looking for high performing groups. Looking to other groups for which similar data are available can provide useful learning opportunities. It is reasonable to consider how other similar organizations perform using the same instrument and, in particular, how specific sites within a health region perform. Indeed, in a regionalized setting, it is likely that sites will provide richer sources of meaningful variation for comparison and learning purposes. There were 15 sites in this dataset with respondent groups large enough to permit meaningful comparisons (15 sites had >30 respondents). Comparing these data at a regional level is not recommended because (a) using a unit of analysis that is regional will be heavily biased by larger sites in the region, and (b) culture within a region is likely to be a heterogeneous aggregate of what are really more meaningful homogeneous site and professional sub-cultures.

### Data Analysis & Reporting

In keeping with the above suggestions for how to use these data to foster change and improvement, data are reported in several ways.

### Comparing Mean Scores by Region, Staff Group and Sector.

First, data are presented for groups of questions that were used to measure each of the four broad areas covered by the survey noted above: (1) Valuing safety at the organization and department level; (2) Fear of repercussions; (3) Perceived State of safety; and (4) Supervisory leadership (see Box 1 for questions in each dimension). Mean scores on each of these dimensions of patient safety culture are presented by staff group and by sector (for all 4 regions combined), and by region. These high level data are presented in tables 2 through 4 and are designed to show broad differences across these groups. The 95% Confidence Internal (CI) of the mean is provided to help make it clear when differences between groups should be considered statistically significant. If the lower and upper bounds of the 95% CI for 2 groups overlap, then differences between the groups are NOT statistically significant<sup>2</sup>. These data are presented in tables 2 through 4 and some discussion is

 $<sup>^{2}</sup>$  A Confidence Interval of the mean reflects the fact that mean scores are actually estimates of the mean (E.g the mean will vary from sample to sample of respondents with these 4 health regions). Instead of a single estimate for the mean, a confidence interval generates a lower and upper limit for the mean. The interval estimate gives an indication of how

provided indicating which differences are statistically significant as well as what level of difference should be considered clinically meaningful<sup>3</sup>.

#### Data for individual survey Questions.

More detailed data are shown by reporting the percentage of positive responses for each of the individual questions that make up these four dimensions. The percentage of positive responses includes the percentage of respondents who *agreed* or *strongly agreed* with the positively worded statements in the questionnaire and, for negatively worded statements, the percentage of respondents who *disagreed* or *strongly disagreed* with the statement. These data on individual questions are provided on a site by site basis. Consistent with the suggestions above, Regions are encouraged to look at and learn from their own high and low performing questions, as well as lower performing areas where another site performed very well and might provide opportunities for networking, data sharing and learning. The safety body that initiated the project will facilitate this networking process by brokering contacts between sites wishing to share current practice in these areas. Responses for individual questions for each Region are provided in Appendix B.

Valuing Safety	State of Safety
Senior management provides a climate that promotes patient	Loss of experienced personnel has negatively affected
safety	my ability to provide high quality patient care
Patient safety decisions are made at the proper level by the most	(%disagree)
qualified people	I have enough time to complete patient care tasks safely
Good communication flow exists up the chain of command	I believe that health care error constitutes a real and
regarding patient safety issues	significant risk to the patients that we treat (%disagree)
Senior management has a clear picture of the risk associated with	In the last year, I have witnessed a co-worker do
patient care	something that appeared to me to be unsafe for the
My organization effectively balances the need for patient safety	patient in order to save time (%disagree)
and the need for productivity	I have made significant errors in my work that I
My unit does a good job managing risks to ensure patient safety	attribute to my own fatigue (%disagree)
Senior management considers patient safety when program	I believe health care errors often go unreported
changes are discussed	(%disagree)
I work in an environment where patient safety is a high priority	I am provided with adequate resources (personnel,
My unit takes the time to identify and assess risks to patients	budget, and equipment) to provide safe patient care
I am rewarded for taking quick action to identify a serious	
mistake	Supervisory Leadership
	My supervisor says a good word when he/she sees a
Fear of Repercussions	job done according to established patient safety
I will suffer negative consequences if I report a safety problem	procedures
(%disagree)	My supervisor seriously considers staff suggestions for
If people find out I made a mistake, I will be disciplined	improving patient safety
(%disagree)	Whenever pressure builds up, my supervisor wants us
Clinicians who make serious mistakes are usually punished	to work faster, even if it means taking shortcuts (%
(%disagree)	disagree)
Reporting a patient safety problem will not result in negative	My supervisor overlooks patient safety problems that
repercussions for the person reporting it	happen over and over (%disagree)

#### Box 2 – Survey Items in Each of the Four Dimensions

much uncertainty there is in the estimate of the true mean. The narrower the interval, the more precise the estimate and the smaller the size of the respondent group, the larger the confidence interval.

<sup>3</sup> Effect sizes are used to comment on how clinically meaningful differences between groups are.

### Results

#### Comparing Mean Scores by Region, Staff Group and Sector.

Table 2 shows the scores on each of the 4 safety culture dimensions by Region. Table 2 shows that regions tend to score between 3.5 and 4 out of 5 on three of the four dimensions, with lower scores (averaging closer to 3.0) on the state of safety dimension. This shows that responses to question in these dimensions tended to fall between 3 and 4 on a five-point scale where 1 is *strongly disagree*, 3 is *neutral* and 5 is *strongly agree* (with the statements in the dimension). Any negatively phrased items in the dimension were recoded so that a 1 = strongly agree and 5 = strongly disagree. Accordingly, a higher mean score is always a more positive score.

None of the differences between the regions in Table 2 are significant which means that when data are rolled up to the region level, scores are the same across regions. For this reason and for reasons mentioned above (e.g larger sites bias region-level data), region-level data are not discussed in the remainder of the report.

				95% CI for Mean					
	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Lower Bound	Upper Bound				
Valuing Safety									
Region 1		3.71	0.64	3.63	3.78				
Region 2		3.67	0.65	3.62	3.71				
Region 3		3.60	0.67	3.54	3.65				
Region 4		3.63	0.72	3.54	3.72				
All Regions	1783	3.65	0.67	3.62	3.68				
Fear of Repercussions									
Region 1		3.77	0.61	3.70	3.84				
Region 2		3.71	0.60	3.67	3.75				
Region 3		3.64	0.64	3.58	3.70				
Region 4		3.70	0.67	3.62	3.79				
All Regions	1784	3.70	0.62	3.67	3.73				
State of Safety									
Region 1		3.01	0.66	2.94	3.09				
Region 2		3.09	0.66	3.04	3.14				
Region 3		3.08	0.62	3.02	3.13				
Region 4		3.06	0.66	2.98	3.14				
All Regions	1783	3.07	0.65	3.04	3.10				
Supervisory Leadership									
Region 1		3.75	0.80	3.65	3.84				
Region 2		3.65	0.77	3.60	3.71				
Region 3		3.61	0.82	3.54	3.69				
Region 4		3.64	0.84	3.53	3.74				
All Regions	1760	3.65	0.80	3.62	3.69				

Table 2 - Safety Culture Dimension Scores by Region

Table 3 shows the scores on each of the 4 safety culture dimensions by staff group. There are several differences between various groups on these dimensions. On the Valuing Safety dimension, nurses and physicians score significantly lower than healthcare aides, clinical care managers, and support staff. On the fear of repercussions dimension, clinical care managers score more positively than all other groups and EMS staff score lower than nurses and health care aides on this dimension. Interestingly, on the state of safety dimension clinical care managers score LOWER than health care aides, allied and technicians, and support staff. Health care aides and support staff feel more positively about the state of safety than most clinicians (nurses, physicians and clinical care managers). In terms of supervisory leadership, clinical care managers give significantly more positive scores than both nurses and physicians.

Effect sizes<sup>4</sup> tell us about the clinical significance of these differences. Differences between groups of 0.2 or 0.3 on this 5-point scale would be considered small to medium effects. Differences between groups that approach 0.5 would be considered large effects. For instance, physicians score nearly 0.5 lower than clinical care managers on the valuing dimension, the fear of repercussions dimension and the supervisory leadership dimension.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Effect sizes are differences expressed as a proportion of the standard deviation. 0.2 is considered a small effect, 0.5 a medium effect and 0.8 a large effect (Cohen & Cohen, 1983)

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Table 3 - Safet	v Culture Scale	Scores by	Staff Category	
Table J - Salet	y Culture Scale	Scores by	Stall Category	

				for Mean	
Staff Group	Ν	Mean	Std. Deviation	Lower Bound	Upper Bound
Valuing Safety					
Nursing	558	3.51	0.69	3.46	3.57
Care assistant	423	3.70	0.70	3.63	3.76
Allied & technicians	208	3.65	0.60	3.57	3.73
Clinical Care manager	177	3.82	0.55	3.74	3.90
Direct & non-direct care support					
staff	260	3.73	0.57	3.66	3.80
Physicians	30	3.31	0.56	3.10	3.52
EMS staff	88	3.57	0.78	3.41	3.74
All Staff Groups	1744	3.64	0.67	3.61	3.67
Fear of Repercussions					
Nursing	559	3.71	0.62	3.65	3.76
Care assistant	423	3.69	0.62	3.63	3.75
Allied & technicians	209	3.64	0.55	3.56	3.71
Clinical Care manager	177	4.01	0.58	3.93	4.10
Direct & non-direct care support					
staff	259	3.60	0.60	3.53	3.67
Physicians	30	3.52	0.72	3.25	3.79
EMS staff	88	3.41	0.66	3.27	3.55
All Staff Groups	1745	3.69	0.62	3.66	3.72
State of Safety					
Nursing	559	3.02	0.63	2.97	3.07
Care assistant	422	3.17	0.64	3.11	3.23
Allied & technicians	208	3.11	0.57	3.03	3.18
Clinical Care manager	176	2.88	0.60	2.79	2.97
Direct & non-direct care support					
staff	261	3.19	0.71	3.10	3.28
Physicians	30	2.75	0.80	2.45	3.04
EMS staff	88	3.05	0.68	2.90	3.19
All Staff Groups	1744	3.07	0.65	3.04	3.10
Supervisory Leadership					
Nursing	555	3.59	0.79	3.52	3.65
Care assistant	420	3.71	0.86	3.63	3.79
Allied & technicians	207	3.65	0.72	3.55	3.75
Clinical Care manager	172	3.83	0.67	3.73	3.93
Direct & non-direct care support					
staff	255	3.59	0.81	3.49	3.69
Physicians	26	3.30	0.70	3.02	3.58
EMS staff	88	3.64	0.94	3.44	3.84
All Staff Groups	1723	3.65	0.80	3.61	3.69

Table 4 shows the scores on each of the 4 safety culture dimensions by sector. There are few differences between the sectors on these 4 safety culture dimensions. The pre-hospital care sector provides lower scores on the fear of repercussions dimension than acute, LTC and community sectors. The Mental Health sector also provides lower scores than acute care on this dimension. Finally on the state of safety dimension, the acute care sector provided lower scores than the community sector. All of these differences reflect relatively small effects. None of the differences between sectors on the valuing safety dimension or the supervisory leadership dimension are significant.

Sector				95% CI	for Mean
				Lower	Upper
	Ν	Mean	Std. Deviation	Bound	Bound
Valuing Safety					
Acute	547	3.62	0.66	3.56	3.67
LTC	445	3.68	0.68	3.62	3.75
Community	430	3.70	0.62	3.64	3.76
Pre-Hospital	103	3.62	0.77	3.47	3.76
Mental Health	56	3.55	0.60	3.39	3.71
All Sectors	1783	3.65	0.67	3.62	3.68
Fear of Repercussions					
Acute	546	3.75	0.57	3.71	3.80
LTC	444	3.72	0.64	3.66	3.77
Community	433	3.70	0.62	3.65	3.76
Pre-Hospital	103	3.49	0.68	3.35	3.62
Mental Health	56	3.46	0.67	3.28	3.64
All Sectors	1784	3.70	0.62	3.67	3.73
State of Safety					
Acute	548	3.01	0.68	2.96	3.07
LTC	444	3.09	0.65	3.03	3.15
Community	431	3.17	0.64	3.11	3.23
Pre-Hospital	103	3.03	0.66	2.90	3.16
Mental Health	56	3.04	0.48	2.91	3.17
All Sectors	1783	3.07	0.65	3.04	3.10
Supervisory Leadership					
Acute	542	3.63	0.78	3.56	3.69
LTC	441	3.63	0.82	3.55	3.71
Community	421	3.76	0.75	3.69	3.84
Pre-Hospital	103	3.66	0.93	3.48	3.84
Mental Health	56	3.54	0.79	3.32	3.75
All Sectors	1760	3.65	0.80	3.62	3.69

Table 4 - Safety Culture Scale Scores by Sector

### Data for individual survey Questions

Table 5 and the remainder of the data presented focus on the proportion of positive responses to individual questions in the 4 dimension of patient safety culture. As noted, it is often these more detailed data that can best help drive specific change and improvement efforts.

				Ŭ				C'. NT	1								ΥT / 1
		1	2	3	4	5	6	Site N 7	umber 8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Total n=197
		1	2	5	<b>T</b>	5	0	/	0	,	10	11	12	15	17	15	11-17/
Val	luing Safety																
	Senior management provides a climate that promotes patient safety	64.7	51.8	53.3	60.3	83.6	54.2	71.8	75.7	68.4	65.7	48.6	91.2	79.4	90.9	70.0	66.7
	Patient safety decisions are made at the proper level by the most qualified people	74.8	55.2	66.7	75.8	80.3	75.0	71.8	89.7	89.5	52.8	51.4	83.3	69.7	77.4	90.0	71.8
	Good communication flow exists up the chain of command regarding patient safety issues	71.0	47.9	59.4	57.1	75.0	58.3	75.0	86.8	68.4	33.3	54.3	77.8	81.8	81.8	69.0	65.7
	Senior management has a clear picture of the risk associated with patient care	62.8	45.5	40.6	54.8	64.5	58.3	61.5	89.2	57.9	50.0	55.9	72.2	81.8	81.8	43.3	58.7
	My organization effectively balances the need for patient safety and the need for productivity	57.8	31.7	46.8	46.0	57.1	33.9	64.1	63.9	50.0	30.6	37.1	65.7	63.6	77.4	65.5	53.9
I	My unit does a good job managing risks to ensure patient safety	91.2	71.9	80.6	75.9	86.7	76.8	78.9	97.4	89.5	81.8	82.4	94.3	87.5	96.9	87.1	83.1
	Senior management considers patient safety when program changes are discussed	47.0	35.4	55.0	49.2	66.7	48.3	70.0	70.3	69.4	45.5	50.0	77.1	77.4	72.7	48.3	56.5
	I work in an environment where patient safety is a high priority	83.6	63.9	85.9	71.4	88.3	63.9	74.4	89.7	91.9	69.4	71.4	91.7	94.1	100.0	84.4	79.9
I	My unit takes the time to identify and assess risks to patients	83.9	73.0	85.7	79.7	83.3	72.7	74.4	91.9	91.7	81.8	80.0	91.4	84.4	100.0	83.9	83.1
_	I am rewarded for taking quick action to identify a serious mistake	35.6	25.9	41.0	41.0	27.1	25.0	45.7	27.0	35.1	37.5	28.6	37.1	47.1	40.6	41.9	33.2
Fea	ar of Repercussions																
I	I will suffer negative consequences if I report a safety problem (%disagree)	85.1	76.5	85.9	88.9	90.2	93.3	80.0	94.9	92.1	88.2	64.7	82.9	90.9	90.9	87.5	83.5
	If people find out I made a mistake, I will be disciplined (%disagree)	56.7	53.4	56.7	66.7	60.7	53.3	61.5	55.3	50.0	51.4	39.4	55.6	66.7	56.3	55.2	53.8
,	Clinicians who make serious mistakes are usually punished (%disagree)	41.8	34.3	50.0	44.4	27.3	50.9	47.2	40.0	35.7	51.6	21.4	25.8	41.4	37.0	30.8	40.8
	Reporting a patient safety problem will not result in negative repercussions for the person reporting it	79.3	67.5	79.7	88.9	85.5	90.0	77.5	94.9	89.5	69.4	68.6	77.8	81.8	78.8	71.0	78.9

 Table 5 - Percentage of Positive Responses on Each Question by Site

NOTE: Only differences of approximately 15-20% between sites should be considered statistically significant

								Site N	umber								Total
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	n=1970
Sta	ite of Safety																
L	Loss of experienced personnel has negatively affected my ability to provide high quality patient care (%disagree)	47.2	27.3	30.9	54.8	46.2	31.6	51.4	47.1	27.8	33.3	36.4	48.5	36.7	42.9	39.3	43.7
	I have enough time to complete patient care tasks safely	53.4	46.4	43.9	47.4	50.0	37.5	77.1	57.1	47.1	35.5	57.6	58.1	78.8	60.7	63.0	54.6
L	I believe that health care error constitutes a real and significant risk to the patients that we treat (%disagree)	20.3	12.4	26.2	13.3	17.5	5.0	10.0	24.3	13.9	11.4	14.3	28.6	17.6	6.5	19.4	15.9
L	In the last year, I have witnessed a co- worker do something that appeared to me to be unsafe for the patient in order to save time (%disagree)	46.4	46.7	46.7	48.2	55.4	37.5	63.3	44.4	47.1	18.8	33.3	33.3	64.5	53.6	55.6	49.3
	I have made significant errors in my work that I attribute to my own fatigue (%disagree)	80.6	72.6	76.6	79.4	71.2	71.9	92.3	89.2	83.8	78.8	87.9	85.7	79.4	83.3	80.6	78.5
L	I believe health care errors often go unreported (%disagree)	21.3	10.0	31.3	27.4	20.0	18.3	10.0	43.2	35.3	16.7	12.1	22.9	41.2	21.9	20.7	21.7
	I am provided with adequate resources (personnel, budget, and equipment) to provide safe patient care	48.1	25.6	43.5	41.4	49.1	37.5	55.3	48.6	31.4	31.3	39.4	65.6	64.7	45.2	48.3	46.3
Su	pervisory Leadership																
	My supervisor says a good word when he/she sees a job done according to established patient safety procedures	54.3	44.9	60.7	47.5	64.4	61.8	57.1	72.2	66.7	44.1	52.9	71.4	68.8	62.5	74.2	56.6
	My supervisor seriously considers staff suggestions for improving patient safety Whenever pressure builds up, my	67.9	57.5	73.8	65.6	70.7	74.1	75.0	83.8	66.7	45.7	44.1	83.3	75.0	84.8	81.3	68.9
	supervisor wants us to work faster, even if it means taking shortcuts (% disagree)	65.2	60.7	66.1	62.9	75.9	66.7	75.7	82.1	65.8	45.7	56.3	77.1	81.3	84.4	87.5	69.0
	My supervisor overlooks patient safety problems that happen over and over (%disagree)	73.7	67.0	77.4	75.4	76.3	70.9	81.1	91.9	73.0	51.4	58.8	88.9	90.9	83.9	87.5	75.8

NOTE: Only differences of approximately 15-20% between sites should be considered statistically significant

#### **Discussion and Interpretation**

#### Identifying Areas for Celebration and Areas for Improvement

While table 5 reveals differences between sites on the proportion of positive responses for individual survey questions, it is also clear that the same groups of questions seem to receive higher and lower proportions of positive responses across all sites. Recall that the individual survey items reflect perceptions regarding leadership for safety at the unit level and in the organization, responses to reporting of safety failures and the state of safety in the organization. The far right column in table 5 reveals the %age of positive responses to each question across the 4 regions combined. Regions tend to receive a higher proportion of positive response to questions about how safety is valued and handled in the unit/organization and fewer positive responses to questions about the actual state of safety. These data are consistent with the idea that positive leadership support and cultural change around safety must precede real improvements in the state of safety.

A summary of table 5 suggests opportunities for celebration on three areas where the regions achieved >80% positive responses (these items have an H on the left in table 5):

Q16. I will suffer negative consequences if I report a safety problem	83.5% disagree
(%disagree)	
Q6. My unit does a good job managing risks to ensure patient safety	83.1% agree
Q5. My unit takes the time to identify and assess risks to patients	83.1% agree

In terms of identifying opportunities for improvement, it may be useful to consider the five areas where the regions achieved fewer than 50% positive responses (these items have an L on the left in table 5):

Q24. In the last year, I have witnessed a co-worker do something that appeared to me to be unsafe for the patient in order to save time (%disagree)	49.3% disagree
Q21. Loss of experienced personnel has negatively affected my ability to provide high quality patient care (% disagree)	43.7% disagree
Q23. Clinicians who make serious mistakes are usually punished (%disagree)	40.8% disagree
Q18. I am rewarded for taking quick action to identify a serious mistake	33.2% agree
Q28. I believe health care errors often go unreported (%disagree)	21.7% disagree
Q27. I believe that health care error constitutes a real and significant risk to the patients that we treat (%disagree)	15.9% disagree

#### Identifying the Most Important Survey Questions

Another approach to prioritizing areas for change and improvement is to try to identify which questions are the most important for patient safety. One way to do this is to look at those questions on the survey that contribute most to overall ratings of patient safety for the organization. To accomplish this each of the survey questions was correlated with the question on the survey which asked respondents to give an overall grade to their region on patient safety (q38). Questions with the highest correlation can be considered to be among the most important contributors to respondents overall safety rating. Box 2 shows 9 questions that were among the most highly correlated<sup>5</sup> with overall safety ratings in all 4 regions in this initiative.

#### Box 2

Q2. Good communication flow exists up the chain of command regarding patient safety issues

Q4. Senior management has a clear picture of the risk associated with patient care

Q7. Senior management provides a climate that promotes patient safety

Q25. I am provided with adequate resources (personnel, budget, and equipment) to provide safe patient care

Q29. My organization effectively balances the need for patient safety and the need for productivity

Q30. I work in an environment where patient safety is a high priority

\*Q40. The people who run this organization are quick to spend money to improve the quality of our services

\*Q41. Senior managers in this organization are completely committed to the idea that if we study the way we do our work, we can make things better around here

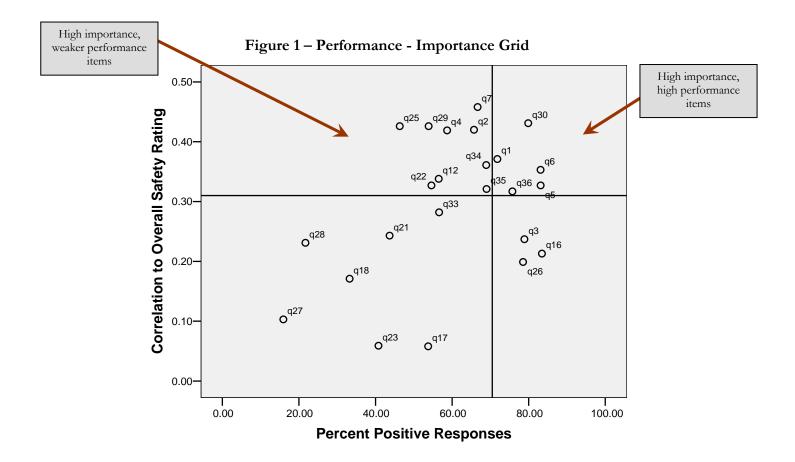
\*Q43. The organizational leaders are extremely active in identifying priority areas for improvement

\*These 3 questions were asked at the end of the questionnaire using a different scale in a section with 9 questions on the organization's improvement orientation. These questions are not included with other analyses because of the different response scale that was used (7-point agree-disagree Likert-type instead of 5-point).

### Considering Performance and Importance

Finally, figure 1 on the next page plots (1) an items performance (percentage of agree/strongly agree responses –or disagree/strongly disagree for negatively worded questions) as the percentage of positive responses on the X axis, and (2) the item's correlation with the overall patients safety rating question (q38) as the importance rating on the Y-axis. This plot is useful for identifying items with strong performance and high importance to celebrate (top right quadrant), items with strong performance but less importance (bottom right quadrant). Items with weaker performance and high importance (the top left quadrant) may be the areas to prioritize and target for change and improvement. Items in the bottom left quadrant can also be targeted for action, though they are less important to overall patient safety scores given by staff. Note that the lines are somewhat arbitrary and simply help to group items into the areas just described. This grid is provided with all 4 regions data combined given the lack of variation in performance and importance at the region level.

 $<sup>^{5}</sup>$  r = at least 0.35 for all of these questions and r>0.4 for most of them (the r-squared range is .12 to .36)



### Other Options for Considering These Data

Provided that caution is used, the Regions may be interested to see how other hospitals have scored on some of these survey items. Singer, Gaba, and colleagues (2003) reported on data from 15 U.S hospitals where a similar questionnaire was completed. Raw data on a question by question basis are presented in their paper. When making any comparisons, it is important to recognize that personnel surveyed in the Singer et al. study may not be identical. Also note that Singer et al. report on the percentage of "problematic responses" (those who disagree and strongly disagree with positively worded items and agree to negatively worded items). Frequencies for each question by Region are provided in Appendix B and these are the data that should be used if you are seeking similar comparisons to the Singer et al. data.

Finally, as this instrument achieves more widespread use across Canada as part of a recently funded study by the Canadian Patient Safety Institute (Ginsburg & Tregunno, Principal Investigators), there will be additional hospitals and health regions to work with in efforts to understand and improve perceptions of hospital patient safety culture. Although this is the first time these Regions used this survey, this instrument allows organizations to track change in safety culture over time if implemented at regular intervals.

### References

Cohen, J., & Cohen, P. (1983). <u>Applied Multiple Regression / Correlation Analysis for the</u> <u>Behavioral Sciences</u> (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Hillsdale, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum

Ginsburg. L., Norton, P.G., Casebeer, A., Lewis, S. (2005). An Educational Intervention to Enhance Nurse Leaders' Perceptions of Patient Safety Culture. <u>Health Services Research</u>, 40(4):997-1020.

Singer, S.J., Gaba, D.M., Geppert, J.J., Sinaiko, A.D., Howard, S.K., & Park, K.C. (2003). The culture of safety: results of an organization-wide survey in 15 California hospitals. <u>Quality and Safety</u> in <u>Health Care</u>, 12: 112-118.

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### Appendix A

### Patient Safety Culture In Healthcare Organizations

Instructions: For the following statements, please indicate if Patient Safety: Activities to avoid, prevent, or you "strongly disagree", "disagree", "agree", or "strongly correct adverse outcomes which may result from the agree." If you are unsure of your answer mark "Neutral". If the delivery of health care. question does not apply to your role or the setting you work in please mark "Not Applicable." Strongly Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Not Agree Applicable Disagree 1. Patient safety decisions are made at the proper level by the most qualified О Ο Ο Ο Ο Ο people 2. Good communication flow exists up the chain of command regarding Ο Ο Ο Ο Ο Ο patient safety issues 3. Reporting a patient safety problem will not result in negative 0 Ο Ο Ο Ο Ο repercussions for the person reporting it 4. Senior management has a clear picture of the risk associated with patient Ο Ο Ο Ο Ο Ο care 5. My unit takes the time to identify and assess risks to patients Ο Ο Ο Ο Ο Ο 0 0 0 0 My unit does a good job managing risks to ensure patient safety Ο Ο 6. Ο 7. Senior management provides a climate that promotes patient safety Ο O Ο Ο Ο Asking for help is a sign of incompetence Ο Ο Ο Ο Ο О 8. 9. If I make a mistake that has significant consequences and nobody notices, 0 Ο 0 Ο Ο 0 I do not tell anyone about it Ο Ο Ο Ο 10. Telling others about my mistakes is embarrassing Ο Ο 11. I am less effective at work when I am fatigued Ο Ο Ο О Ο Ο 12. Senior management considers patient safety when program changes are 0 Ο 0 0 0 0 discussed 13. Personal problems can adversely affect my performance Ο Ο 0 Ο 0 Ο 14. Compared to other facilities in the area, this facility cares more about the Ο Ο 0  $\mathbf{O}$ 0 Ο quality of patient care it provides 15. I have learned how to do my own job better by learning about mistakes Ο Ο Ο Ο Ο О made by my coworkers 16. I will suffer negative consequences if I report a patient safety problem Ο Ο Ο Ο Ο Ο Ο Ο Ο Ο О 17. If people find out that I made a mistake, I will be disciplined О Ο Ο Ο Ο 18. I am rewarded for taking quick action to identify a serious mistake Ο Ο 19. Individuals in my unit are willing to report behaviour which is unsafe for 0 Ο 0 0 0 Ο patient care Ο Ο Ο Ο Ο Ο 20. I am asked to cut corners to get the job done 21. Loss of experienced personnel has negatively affected my ability to Ο Ο O O Ο О provide high quality patient care 22. I have enough time to complete patient care tasks safely Ο Ο 0 Ο 0 Ο Ο 0 0 23. Clinicians who make serious mistakes are usually punished Ο Ο Ο 24. In the last year, I have witnessed a co-worker do something that appeared Ο Ο Ο Ο Ο Ο to me to be unsafe for the patient in order to save time 25. I am provided with adequate resources (personnel, budget, and Ο Ο Ο Ο Ο Ο equipment) to provide safe patient care 26. I have made significant errors in my work that I attribute to my own 0 Ο 0 0 Ο 0 fatigue 27. I believe that health care error constitutes a real and significant risk to the Ο Ο 0 Ο Ο Ο patients that we treat 28. I believe health care errors often go unreported 0 0 0 0  $\mathbf{O}$ Ο 29. My organization effectively balances the need for patient safety and the Ο Ο 0 Ο Ο Ο need for productivity 30. I work in an environment where patient safety is a high priority Ο Ο Ο Ο Ο Ο 31. I believe that most serious occurrences happen as a result of multiple O Ο O O O О small failures, and are not attributable to one individual's actions

					/	16
	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	/ Not Applicable
32. I would probably self report a "near miss" (an event that had the potential to harm a patient) if the patient was not harmed	0	О	0	О	0	О
33. My supervisor/manager says a good word when he/she sees a job done according to established patient safety procedures	0	0	О	О	0	О
34. My supervisor/manager seriously considers staff suggestions for improving patient safety	0	0	О	О	О	0
35. Whenever pressure builds up, my supervisor/manager wants us to work faster, even if it means taking shortcuts	0	0	0	Ο	0	0
36. My supervisor/manager overlooks patient safety problems that happen over and over	0	0	0	0	0	0

These questions are about overall patient safety	A Excellent	B Very Good	C Acceptable	D Poor	F Failing
37. Please give your unit an overall grade on patient safety	Ο	0	0	0	О
38. Please give the Region an overall grade on patient safety	O	0	0	Ó	Ó

Thinking about your organization over the last year, for each of the following statements please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements using this 7-point scale.	strongly disagree			neutral			strongly agree
39. This organization devotes an enormous amount of energy trying to learn what patients need and want	0	О	О	О	О	О	О
40. The people who run this organization are quick to spend money to improve the quality of our services	0	0	0	0	О	О	0
41. Senior managers in this organization are <u>completely</u> committed to the idea that if we study the way we do our work, we can make things better around here	0	О	0	0	0	0	0
42. This organization devotes resources to measurement initiatives, but the results often end up sitting on a shelf	0	0	О	О	О	0	0
43. The organizational leaders are extremely active in identifying priority areas for improvement	0	О	О	О	0	О	0
44. Other priorities leave little time for measurement and improvement activities in this organization	0	О	О	0	0	О	0
45. My organization focuses on underlying processes and systems as causes of failure as opposed to singling out individuals	0	0	0	О	О	0	0
46. There is a leader(s) in this organization who truly promotes/champions measurement and improvement activities	0	О	О	О	О	0	О
47. This organization devotes significant resources to follow up on satisfaction survey results	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Please take a moment to respond to 3 additional questions to help us check the wording of a few items. These may remind you of some earlier questions.	Strongly Disagree	-	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	
(a) My department takes the time to identify and assess risks to patients	0	О	0	0	О	0
(b) My department does a good job managing risks to ensure patient safety	0	О	0	О	О	Ο
(c) Individuals in my department are willing to report behaviour which is unsafe for patient care	0	0	0	О	0	О

48. Finally, please help us by providing the following information:

<b>Age: O</b> 18-25	Time in	$\mathbf{O}$ 0-6 months	Role:	O RN	Work	O Inpatient	Gender: O Female
<b>O</b> 26-30	facility:	$\mathbf{O}$ 6 months – 1 yr		O LPN	Setting:	• Outpatient	O Male
<b>O</b> 31-40	-	O 2-5 years		O MD		<b>O</b> Community	
<b>O</b> 41-50		O 6-10 years		O Nurse Manager	•		
<b>O</b> 51-60		$\mathbf{O} > 10$ years		O Healthcare Aid	e	Δ	dapted with permission from:
$\mathbf{O} > 60$		$\bigcirc$ 0-6 months		• Other	-		СНР



Thank you for helping us to evaluate this patient safety initiative

### Q1 Patient safety decisions are made at the proper level by the most qualified people \* region Crosstabulation

% within region									
		1	2	3	4	Total			
Q1 Patient safety decisions are made	1 St. disagree	.8%	1.7%	1.6%	2.9%	1.7%			
	2 disagree	9.8%	10.9%	13.2%	12.7%	11.7%			
at the proper level by	3 neutral	14.7%	14.7%	15.1%	15.2%	14.9%			
the most qualified people	4 agree	50.0%	51.0%	56.6%	50.4%	52.4%			
	5 St. agree	24.8%	21.7%	13.6%	18.9%	19.4%			
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%			

# Q2 Good communication flow exists up the chain of command regarding patient safety issues \* region Crosstabulation

% within region								
			region					
		1	2	3	4	Total		
Q2 Good communication flow exists up the chain of	1 St. disagree	3.4%	3.6%	3.7%	5.7%	3.9%		
	2 disagree	14.6%	15.0%	17.2%	17.9%	16.0%		
command regarding patient safety issues	3 neutral	17.5%	14.6%	14.1%	11.0%	14.4%		
patient salety issues	4 agree	46.6%	51.0%	50.3%	48.8%	49.8%		
	5 St. agree	17.9%	15.7%	14.7%	16.7%	15.9%		
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%		

# Q3 Reporting a patient safety problem will not result in negative repercussions for the person reporting it \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

		1	2	3	4	Total
Q3 Reporting a patient	1 St. disagree	1.1%	1.5%	2.7%	2.0%	1.9%
safety problem will not result in negative repercussions for the person reporting it	2 disagree	5.6%	6.3%	7.6%	6.9%	6.6%
	3 neutral	14.6%	13.4%	11.7%	10.2%	12.6%
	4 agree	47.0%	48.6%	54.6%	52.8%	50.7%
	5 St. agree	31.7%	30.3%	23.5%	28.0%	28.2%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

#### Q4 Senior management has a clear picture of the risk associated with patient care \* region Crosstabulation

% within region							
		1	2	3	4	Total	
Q4 Senior management has a clear picture of the risk associated with patient care	1 St. disagree	5.6%	5.5%	4.6%	7.5%	5.5%	
	2 disagree	13.3%	19.4%	19.4%	13.7%	17.7%	
	3 neutral	23.0%	16.8%	17.8%	17.4%	18.1%	
	4 agree	39.3%	40.9%	45.5%	40.2%	41.9%	
	5 St. agree	18.9%	17.5%	12.7%	21.2%	16.8%	
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

#### Q5 My unit takes the time to identify and assess risks to patients \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

			region					
		1	2	3	4	Total		
Q5 My unit takes the time to identify and assess risks to patients	1 St. disagree	1.2%	1.3%	1.6%	2.1%	1.5%		
	2 disagree	5.0%	5.8%	6.7%	7.2%	6.1%		
	3 neutral	7.4%	8.1%	10.8%	11.4%	9.3%		
	4 agree	57.8%	55.3%	57.6%	47.9%	55.3%		
	5 St. agree	28.7%	29.5%	23.3%	31.4%	27.8%		
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%		

### Q6 My unit does a good job managing risks to ensure patient safety \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

			region				
		1	2	3	4	Total	
Q6 My unit does a good job managing risks to ensure patient safety	1 St. disagree	1.1%	1.0%	1.8%	2.2%	1.4%	
	2 disagree	6.1%	5.2%	6.7%	6.5%	5.9%	
	3 neutral	7.6%	8.8%	11.1%	10.4%	9.5%	
	4 agree	53.4%	54.8%	56.6%	53.5%	54.9%	
	5 St. agree	31.7%	30.2%	23.8%	27.4%	28.2%	
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

### **Q7** Senior management provides a climate that promotes patient safety \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

		1	2	3	4	Total
Q7 Senior management provides a climate that promotes patient safety	1 St. disagree	2.2%	3.1%	3.3%	6.2%	3.5%
	2 disagree	9.4%	10.2%	11.6%	7.1%	10.0%
	3 neutral	16.9%	20.3%	20.8%	19.9%	19.9%
	4 agree	48.3%	48.7%	49.6%	46.9%	48.6%
	5 St. agree	23.2%	17.8%	14.7%	19.9%	18.0%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

#### Q8 Asking for help is a sign of incompetence \* region Crosstabulation

% within region								
			region					
		1	2	3	4	Total		
Q8 Asking for help is a	1 St. disagree	61.9%	54.8%	54.1%	60.7%	56.5%		
sign of incompetence	2 disagree	29.7%	35.0%	35.7%	31.8%	33.9%		
	3 neutral	2.2%	4.5%	3.7%	2.5%	3.6%		
	4 agree	4.0%	2.7%	4.1%	2.9%	3.3%		
	5 St. agree	2.2%	3.0%	2.5%	2.1%	2.6%		
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%		

### .../19

### Q9 If I make a mistake that has significant consequences and nobody notices, I do not tell anyone about it \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

		1	2	3	4	Total
Q9 If I make a mistake that has significant consequences and	1 St. disagree	57.6%	52.3%	54.8%	61.7%	55.1%
	2 disagree	34.7%	42.3%	40.2%	32.9%	39.2%
	3 neutral	4.8%	2.7%	3.1%	2.5%	3.1%
nobody notices, I do not tell anyone about it	4 agree	1.5%	2.2%	1.2%	.4%	1.5%
not ton anyono about it	5 St. agree	1.5%	.5%	.8%	2.5%	1.0%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

#### Q10 Telling others about my mistakes is embarrassing \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

			region					
		1	2	3	4	Total		
Q10 Telling	1 St. disagree	20.3%	16.4%	21.2%	16.0%	18.3%		
others about my	2 disagree	41.7%	36.4%	41.4%	32.0%	38.0%		
mistakes is	3 neutral	10.0%	14.2%	9.1%	13.1%	11.9%		
embarrassing	4 agree	24.7%	29.3%	27.2%	34.4%	28.7%		
	5 St. agree	3.3%	3.8%	1.0%	4.5%	3.0%		
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%		

#### Q11 I am less effective at work when I am fatigued \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

			region					
		1	2	3	4	Total		
Q11 I am	1 St. disagree	2.3%	.9%	.8%	.4%	1.0%		
less effective	2 disagree	6.1%	6.5%	5.6%	3.7%	5.8%		
at work when I am fatigued	3 neutral	6.1%	6.4%	8.9%	4.5%	6.8%		
i ani langueu	4 agree	52.1%	55.4%	53.8%	56.4%	54.6%		
	5 St. agree	33.5%	30.8%	30.9%	35.0%	31.8%		
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%		

#### Q12 Senior management considers patient safety when program changes are discussed \* region Crosstabulation

		region				
		1	2	3	4	Total
Q12 Senior management considers	1 St. disagree	.8%	2.4%	4.3%	5.1%	3.1%
	2 disagree	10.1%	9.4%	9.6%	6.0%	9.1%
patient safety when program changes are	3 neutral	31.4%	32.5%	29.7%	31.1%	31.3%
discussed	4 agree	45.7%	43.8%	46.7%	47.7%	45.5%
aloodooda	5 St. agree	12.0%	11.9%	9.6%	10.2%	11.0%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

#### Q13 Personal problems can adversely affect my performance \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

			region				
		1	2	3	4	Total	
Q13 Personal	1 St. disagree	4.4%	3.8%	4.6%	4.1%	4.2%	
problems can	2 disagree	19.6%	20.5%	18.8%	15.2%	19.1%	
adversely affect	3 neutral	13.0%	14.7%	13.9%	14.4%	14.1%	
my performance	4 agree	46.7%	50.2%	50.9%	53.5%	50.3%	
	5 St. agree	16.3%	10.9%	11.8%	12.8%	12.2%	
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

# Q14 Compared to other facilities in the area, this facility cares more about the quality of patient care it provides \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

		region				
		1	2	3	4	Total
Q14 Compared to other facilities in the area, this	1 St. disagree	3.1%	3.4%	3.1%	3.4%	3.3%
	2 disagree	13.1%	9.8%	12.2%	8.6%	10.8%
facility cares more about	3 neutral	35.9%	44.8%	47.6%	48.9%	44.8%
the quality of patient care it provides	4 agree	28.2%	25.6%	24.7%	28.8%	26.2%
	5 St. agree	19.7%	16.4%	12.4%	10.3%	14.9%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

# Q15 I have learned how to do my own job better by learning about mistakes made by my coworkers \* region Crosstabulation

% within region							
			region				
		1	2	3	4	Total	
Q15 I have learned how to do my own job better	1 St. disagree	3.0%	1.8%	2.2%	.8%	2.0%	
	2 disagree	11.4%	12.4%	13.1%	7.5%	11.8%	
by learning about mistakes made by my	3 neutral	21.4%	18.6%	16.7%	13.0%	17.7%	
coworkers	4 agree	49.4%	54.0%	57.9%	61.5%	55.4%	
	5 St. agree	14.8%	13.2%	10.1%	17.2%	13.1%	
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

#### Q16 I will suffer negative consequences if I report a patient safety problem \* region Crosstabulation

			region				
		1	2	3	4	Total	
Q16 I will suffer negative consequences if I report a patient safety problem	1 St. disagree	30.4%	25.1%	26.8%	24.0%	26.3%	
	2 disagree	56.7%	59.7%	55.1%	55.0%	57.2%	
	3 neutral	8.9%	9.8%	9.1%	13.6%	10.0%	
	4 agree	3.3%	4.4%	6.8%	4.5%	4.9%	
	5 St. agree	.7%	1.1%	2.1%	2.9%	1.6%	
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

#### Q17 If people find out that I made a mistake, I will be disciplined \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

			region					
		1	2	3	4	Total		
Q17 If people find out that I made a	1 St. disagree	7.6%	9.1%	9.0%	8.7%	8.8%		
	2 disagree	45.4%	45.7%	41.8%	48.5%	44.9%		
mistake, I will be disciplined	3 neutral	27.9%	24.3%	24.6%	23.7%	24.8%		
uiscipiirieu	4 agree	16.4%	18.1%	21.8%	17.4%	18.9%		
	5 St. agree	2.7%	2.7%	2.8%	1.7%	2.6%		
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%		

#### Q18 I am rewarded for taking quick action to identify a serious mistake \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

			region				
		1	2	3	4	Total	
Q18 I am rewarded for taking quick	1 St. disagree	5.0%	6.2%	5.4%	6.1%	5.7%	
	2 disagree	24.4%	23.9%	26.5%	22.5%	24.6%	
action to identify a serious mistake	3 neutral	34.7%	37.7%	36.7%	34.2%	36.5%	
serious mistake	4 agree	30.2%	27.0%	28.3%	32.5%	28.6%	
	5 St. agree	5.7%	5.2%	3.2%	4.8%	4.6%	
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

# Q19 Individuals in my department are willing to report behaviour which is unsafe for patient care \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

		1	2	3	4	Total
Q19 Individuals in my department are willing to report behaviour which is unsafe for patient care	1 St. disagree	2.3%	1.4%	1.8%	1.7%	1.7%
	2 disagree	8.4%	6.1%	8.0%	3.8%	6.7%
	3 neutral	11.8%	12.8%	14.0%	10.9%	12.8%
	4 agree	60.5%	59.8%	60.2%	61.8%	60.3%
	5 St. agree	17.1%	19.8%	16.0%	21.8%	18.6%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

#### Q20 I am asked to cut corners to get the job done \* region Crosstabulation

			region					
		1	2	3	4	Total		
Q20 I am	1 St. disagree	29.2%	19.8%	22.5%	21.6%	22.2%		
asked to cut	2 disagree	47.3%	46.8%	49.7%	50.6%	48.3%		
corners to get the job	3 neutral	11.0%	16.2%	12.2%	12.9%	13.8%		
done	4 agree	9.5%	12.9%	11.6%	9.5%	11.6%		
	5 St. agree	3.0%	4.3%	3.9%	5.4%	4.1%		
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%		

## Q21 Loss of experienced personnel has negatively affected my ability to provide high quality patient care \* region Crosstabulation

#### % within region

		region				
		1	2	3	4	Total
Q21 Loss of	1 St. disagree	10.0%	7.8%	8.6%	8.5%	8.5%
experienced personnel	2 disagree	32.4%	33.8%	36.8%	39.0%	35.2%
has negatively affected my ability to provide	3 neutral	24.9%	23.1%	23.1%	15.7%	22.3%
high quality patient care	4 agree	21.2%	23.7%	22.2%	27.4%	23.4%
nigh quality pation ouro	5 St. agree	11.6%	11.5%	9.3%	9.4%	10.6%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

#### Q22 I have enough time to complete patient care tasks safely \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

			region					
		1	2	3	4	Total		
Q22 I have enough	1 St. disagree	4.9%	5.7%	6.0%	7.2%	5.9%		
time to complete	2 disagree	22.9%	24.2%	21.0%	22.4%	22.8%		
patient care tasks safely	3 neutral	14.3%	19.7%	16.3%	11.2%	16.7%		
Salely	4 agree	48.2%	42.8%	49.0%	51.6%	46.7%		
	5 St. agree	9.8%	7.5%	7.7%	7.6%	7.9%		
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%		

#### Q23 Clinicians who make serious mistakes are usually punished \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

			region				
		1	2	3	4	Total	
Q23 Clinicians who make serious	1 St. disagree	12.1%	9.6%	8.6%	10.0%	9.7%	
	2 disagree	33.0%	29.3%	31.1%	34.1%	31.0%	
mistakes are usually punished	3 neutral	43.8%	48.3%	44.2%	41.7%	45.5%	
	4 agree	9.8%	11.9%	13.1%	13.3%	12.1%	
	5 St. agree	1.3%	.9%	3.0%	.9%	1.6%	
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

### Q24 In the last year, I have witnessed a co-worker do something that appeared to me to be unsafe for the patient in order to save time \* region Crosstabulation

				region				
		1	2	3	4	Total		
Q24 In the last year, I	1 St. disagree	8.1%	9.9%	9.7%	10.8%	9.7%		
have witnessed a	2 disagree	38.5%	38.2%	42.5%	39.2%	39.6%		
co-worker do something that appeared to me to	3 neutral	18.8%	21.1%	20.1%	16.5%	19.8%		
be unsafe for the patient	4 agree	23.9%	25.8%	22.2%	25.5%	24.4%		
in order to save time	5 St. agree	10.7%	5.0%	5.5%	8.0%	6.4%		
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%		

## Q25 I am provided with adequate resources (personnel, budget, and equipment) to provide safe patient care \* region Crosstabulation

%	within	region
%	within	region

		region				
		1	2	3	4	Total
Q25 I am provided with	1 St. disagree	8.7%	9.3%	8.8%	12.8%	9.6%
adequate resources	2 disagree	28.2%	27.2%	24.3%	23.4%	26.0%
(personnel, budget, and equipment) to provide	3 neutral	11.9%	20.1%	17.4%	20.4%	18.1%
safe patient care	4 agree	44.0%	34.5%	43.6%	38.7%	39.2%
	5 St. agree	7.1%	8.9%	5.9%	4.7%	7.2%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

#### Q26 I have made significant errors in my work that I attribute to my own fatigue \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

			region					
		1	2	3	4	Total		
Q26 I have made	1 St. disagree	23.7%	24.9%	25.8%	25.8%	25.1%		
significant errors in	2 disagree	54.6%	53.4%	52.6%	53.8%	53.4%		
my work that I	3 neutral	11.5%	13.1%	12.2%	12.5%	12.5%		
attribute to my own fatigue	4 agree	9.2%	6.8%	7.9%	6.7%	7.4%		
languo	5 St. agree	1.1%	1.8%	1.4%	1.3%	1.5%		
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%		

# Q27 I believe that health care error constitutes a real and significant risk to the patients that we treat \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

		region				
		1	2	3	4	Total
Q27 I believe that health	1 St. disagree	2.7%	3.9%	2.2%	4.6%	3.3%
care error constitutes a	2 disagree	8.7%	16.1%	9.7%	12.6%	12.6%
real and significant risk to the patients that we	3 neutral	17.9%	20.3%	18.6%	15.5%	18.8%
treat	4 agree	45.2%	43.3%	45.7%	47.7%	44.9%
liout	5 St. agree	25.5%	16.4%	23.8%	19.7%	20.4%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

#### Q28 I believe health care errors often go unreported \* region Crosstabulation

			region					
		1	2	3	4	Total		
Q28 I believe	1 St. disagree	1.5%	4.1%	2.4%	2.9%	3.1%		
health care	2 disagree	18.6%	18.7%	20.2%	15.4%	18.7%		
errors often go unreported	3 neutral	17.5%	26.8%	21.5%	22.4%	23.3%		
go unreported	4 agree	44.9%	38.5%	43.5%	46.1%	42.0%		
	5 St. agree	17.5%	11.8%	12.5%	13.3%	13.1%		
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%		

## Q29 My organization effectively balances the need for patient safety and the need for productivity \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

		region				
		1	2	3	4	Total
Q29 My organization	1 St. disagree	4.6%	3.0%	2.7%	4.2%	3.3%
effectively balances	2 disagree	11.8%	13.2%	12.8%	13.4%	12.9%
the need for patient safety and the need	3 neutral	28.6%	30.4%	29.3%	31.4%	29.9%
for productivity	4 agree	48.9%	45.7%	48.7%	45.6%	47.0%
	5 St. agree	6.1%	7.8%	6.6%	5.4%	6.9%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

### Q30 I work in an environment where patient safety is a high priority \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

			region					
		1	2	3	4	Total		
Q30 I work in	1 St. disagree	1.1%	2.2%	2.3%	2.9%	2.2%		
an environment	2 disagree	5.2%	4.5%	7.4%	7.4%	5.9%		
where patient safety is a high	3 neutral	9.3%	12.0%	13.7%	11.9%	12.1%		
priority	4 agree	55.0%	52.6%	53.0%	53.9%	53.3%		
phoney	5 St. agree	29.4%	28.7%	23.5%	23.9%	26.6%		
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%		

# Q31 I believe that most serious occurrences happen as a result of multiple small failures, and are not attributable to one individual's actions \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

			region			
		1	2	3	4	Total
Q31 I believe that most	1 St. disagree	3.1%	2.0%	1.6%	3.0%	2.2%
serious occurrences	2 disagree	14.1%	11.1%	16.5%	13.1%	13.4%
happen as a result of multiple small failures,	3 neutral	26.2%	32.0%	26.8%	31.2%	29.5%
and are not attributable to	4 agree	47.7%	43.9%	46.1%	43.5%	45.0%
one individual's actions	5 St. agree	9.0%	11.1%	9.1%	9.3%	9.9%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

## Q32 I would probably self report a "near miss" (an event that had the potential to harm a patient) if the patient was not harmed \* region Crosstabulation

			region				
		1	2	3	4	Total	
Q32 I would probably	1 St. disagree	1.5%	1.1%	.8%	.8%	1.1%	
self report a "near miss"	2 disagree	8.0%	8.2%	6.5%	8.1%	7.6%	
(an event that had the potential to harm a patient) if the patient	3 neutral	12.9%	16.3%	12.0%	10.6%	13.7%	
	4 agree	61.4%	59.1%	65.1%	61.4%	61.5%	
was not harmed	5 St. agree	16.3%	15.3%	15.6%	19.1%	16.1%	
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

## Q33 My supervisor says a good word when he/she sees a job done according to established patient safety procedures \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

			region			
		1	2	3	4	Total
Q33 My supervisor says a good word when he/she sees a job done according to established patient safety procedures	1 St. disagree	6.5%	6.0%	7.9%	7.8%	6.9%
	2 disagree	13.4%	15.9%	16.8%	14.8%	15.6%
	3 neutral	18.8%	21.7%	18.6%	25.7%	20.9%
	4 agree	47.1%	45.6%	46.8%	39.6%	45.4%
	5 St. agree	14.2%	10.8%	9.9%	12.2%	11.2%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

### Q34 My supervisor seriously considers staff suggestions for improving patient safety \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

			region				
		1	2	3	4	Total	
Q34 My supervisor seriously considers	1 St. disagree	4.2%	3.6%	5.8%	5.0%	4.5%	
	2 disagree	6.4%	9.4%	11.3%	8.4%	9.4%	
staff suggestions for	3 neutral	17.4%	19.4%	13.1%	18.8%	17.2%	
improving patient safety	4 agree	54.0%	50.8%	55.0%	50.2%	52.4%	
ouloty	5 St. agree	18.1%	16.8%	14.7%	17.6%	16.5%	
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

# Q35 Whenever pressure builds up, my supervisor wants us to work faster, even if it means taking shortcuts (% disagree) \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

			region			
		1	2	3	4	Total
Q35 Whenever pressure	1 St. disagree	21.1%	15.0%	15.8%	15.3%	16.2%
builds up, my supervisor	2 disagree	53.0%	52.5%	52.7%	53.3%	52.8%
wants us to work faster, even if it means taking	3 neutral	15.0%	17.8%	17.3%	17.9%	17.2%
shortcuts (% disagree)	4 agree	7.5%	11.7%	11.5%	8.7%	10.6%
	5 St. agree	3.4%	2.9%	2.7%	4.8%	3.2%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

## Q36 My supervisor overlooks patient safety problems that happen over and over (%disagree) \* region Crosstabulation

			region				
		1	2	3	4	Total	
Q36 My supervisor overlooks patient	1 St. disagree	25.9%	25.5%	23.7%	27.9%	25.4%	
	2 disagree	51.1%	50.4%	50.8%	48.5%	50.4%	
safety problems that happen over and	3 neutral	15.0%	14.8%	13.8%	12.2%	14.2%	
over (%disagree)	4 agree	5.6%	6.9%	8.2%	8.3%	7.3%	
	5 St. agree	2.3%	2.4%	3.5%	3.1%	2.8%	
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

#### Q37 Please give your unit an overall grade on patient safety \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

			region				
		1	2	3	4	Total	
Q37 Please	1 A-Excellent	16.7%	16.2%	12.8%	14.8%	15.1%	
give your unit an	2 B-Very Good	52.8%	55.5%	51.8%	54.0%	53.8%	
overall grade on	3 C - Acceptable	26.8%	25.6%	29.9%	25.3%	27.0%	
patient safety	4 D - Poor	2.6%	2.2%	4.1%	4.6%	3.2%	
	5 F - Failing	1.1%	.5%	1.4%	1.3%	1.0%	
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

### Q38 Please give the Region an overall grade on patient safety \* region Crosstabulation

% within region							
			region				
		1	2	3	4	Total	
Q38 Please	1 A-Excellent	7.9%	8.2%	7.7%	5.4%	7.6%	
give the Region	2 B-Very Good	44.6%	40.7%	39.9%	45.7%	41.8%	
an overall grade on patient safety	3 C - Acceptable	40.1%	45.0%	43.9%	39.8%	43.2%	
on patient salety	4 D - Poor	5.4%	5.1%	6.4%	7.2%	5.8%	
	5 F - Failing	2.1%	.9%	2.1%	1.8%	1.6%	
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

## Q39 This organization devotes an enormous amount of energy trying to learn what patients need and want \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

			region			
		1	2	3	4	Total
Q39 This organization	1 St. disagree	3.3%	4.7%	5.0%	5.8%	4.8%
devotes an enormous amount of energy trying	2	9.2%	6.4%	7.2%	8.3%	7.3%
	3	9.6%	11.7%	9.1%	7.4%	10.0%
to learn what patients need and want	4 neutral	21.8%	25.1%	23.8%	27.3%	24.5%
	5	23.6%	24.1%	26.9%	28.5%	25.5%
	6	20.7%	17.3%	17.6%	14.9%	17.6%
	7 St. agree	11.8%	10.7%	10.3%	7.9%	10.4%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

# Q40 The people who run this organization are quick to spend money to improve the quality of our services \* region Crosstabulation

% within region region 1 2 3 4 Total Q40 The people who run 1 St. disagree 13.7% 16.5% 14.4% 14.1% 15.1% this organization are 2 17.4% 16.4% 14.0% 14.5% 15.6% quick to spend money to 3 14.4% 19.5% 18.9% 18.3% 18.4% improve the quality of our 4 neutral 31.5% 30.6% 30.4% 27.0% 30.2% services 5 16.3% 11.7% 12.8% 19.1% 13.7% 6 4.4% 3.7% 6.0% 5.8% 4.8% 7 St. agree 2.2% 2.2% 1.6% 3.5% 1.2% 100.0% 100.0% Total 100.0% 100.0% 100.0%

### Q41 Senior managers in this organization are completely committed to the idea that if we study the way we do our work, we can make things better around here \* region Crosstabulation

			region				
		1	2	3	4	Total	
Q41 Senior managers	1 St. disagree	6.3%	7.6%	7.4%	5.8%	7.1%	
in this organization are completely committed to the idea that if we	2	7.7%	8.9%	11.3%	7.0%	9.2%	
	3	11.1%	13.8%	10.7%	7.9%	11.7%	
study the way we do our	4 neutral	32.5%	33.9%	34.6%	31.4%	33.5%	
work, we can make things better around	5	21.0%	23.3%	21.4%	31.8%	23.6%	
	6	15.1%	8.3%	8.7%	12.0%	10.0%	
here	7 St. agree	6.3%	4.2%	6.0%	4.1%	5.0%	
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

#### Q42 This organization devotes resources to measurement initiatives, but the results often end up sitting on a shelf \* region Crosstabulation

#### % within region

			region			
		1	2	3	4	Total
Q42 This organization	1 St. disagree	3.7%	2.5%	4.7%	2.1%	3.3%
devotes resources to measurement	2	12.4%	8.2%	8.8%	8.8%	9.1%
	3	10.1%	11.2%	9.3%	10.0%	10.3%
initiatives, but the results often end up	4 neutral	36.0%	45.3%	40.7%	43.5%	42.3%
sitting on a shelf	5	22.5%	18.0%	21.6%	20.5%	20.1%
	6	9.7%	9.1%	9.3%	9.6%	9.4%
	7 St. agree	5.6%	5.7%	5.6%	5.4%	5.6%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

# Q43 The organizational leaders are extremely active in identifying priority areas for improvement \* region Crosstabulation

% within region							
		region					
		1	2	3	4	Total	
Q43 The organizational leaders are extremely	1 St. disagree	3.7%	5.0%	4.9%	6.6%	5.0%	
	2	8.9%	9.0%	6.4%	7.1%	8.0%	
active in identifying priority areas for	3	12.6%	12.8%	14.0%	10.4%	12.8%	
improvement	4 neutral	27.8%	31.9%	32.7%	27.8%	30.9%	
improvement	5	25.9%	27.5%	24.8%	31.5%	27.0%	
	6	15.9%	9.3%	11.9%	12.0%	11.4%	
	7 St. agree	5.2%	4.5%	5.3%	4.6%	4.8%	
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

# Q44 Other priorities leave little time for measurement and improvement activities in this organization \* region Crosstabulation

% within	region
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		region				
		1	2	3	4	Total
Q44 Other priorities leave little time for measurement and improvement activities in this organization	1 St. disagree	3.7%	3.4%	2.3%	3.3%	3.1%
	2	11.5%	7.0%	8.4%	12.0%	8.8%
	3	12.6%	12.9%	14.4%	17.8%	14.0%
	4 neutral	37.8%	40.1%	37.0%	32.8%	37.8%
	5	20.7%	22.9%	23.5%	21.2%	22.5%
	6	7.8%	8.4%	9.1%	8.3%	8.5%
	7 St. agree	5.9%	5.2%	5.3%	4.6%	5.3%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

### Q45 My organization focuses on underlying processes and systems as causes of failure as opposed to singling out individuals \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

		region				
		1	2	3	4	Total
Q45 My organization focuses on underlying processes and systems as causes of failure as opposed to singling out individuals	1 St. disagree	4.5%	3.0%	4.5%	2.5%	3.6%
	2	4.5%	4.5%	4.7%	4.2%	4.5%
	3	7.5%	8.0%	7.4%	10.5%	8.1%
	4 neutral	36.2%	38.8%	40.2%	37.0%	38.6%
	5	27.6%	29.4%	26.6%	26.5%	27.9%
	6	14.2%	11.4%	11.3%	15.1%	12.3%
	7 St. agree	5.6%	4.8%	5.3%	4.2%	5.0%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

## Q46 There is a leader(s) in this organization who truly promotes/champions measurement and improvement activities \* region Crosstabulation

% within region

		region				
		1	2	3	4	Total
Q46 There is a leader(s)	1 St. disagree	5.6%	5.9%	5.8%	5.0%	5.7%
in this organization who truly promotes/champions measurement and improvement activities	2	5.9%	5.5%	5.7%	6.2%	5.7%
	3	6.3%	9.9%	9.0%	9.1%	9.0%
	4 neutral	34.1%	39.1%	33.9%	34.9%	36.2%
	5	22.6%	22.0%	25.9%	24.5%	23.6%
	6	18.5%	12.6%	12.1%	14.5%	13.6%
	7 St. agree	7.0%	4.9%	7.6%	5.8%	6.2%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

## Q47 This organization devotes significant resources to follow up on satisfaction survey results \* region Crosstabulation

		region				
		1	2	3	4	Total
Q47 This organization devotes significant resources to follow up on satisfaction survey results	1 St. disagree	6.8%	6.1%	4.7%	7.9%	6.1%
	2	8.7%	8.3%	7.4%	10.8%	8.5%
	3	8.7%	11.2%	9.6%	11.7%	10.4%
	4 neutral	41.1%	46.4%	47.7%	45.8%	45.9%
	5	19.8%	18.7%	18.8%	17.1%	18.7%
	6	11.4%	6.1%	6.8%	4.6%	6.9%
	7 St. agree	3.4%	3.0%	5.1%	2.1%	3.5%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%