



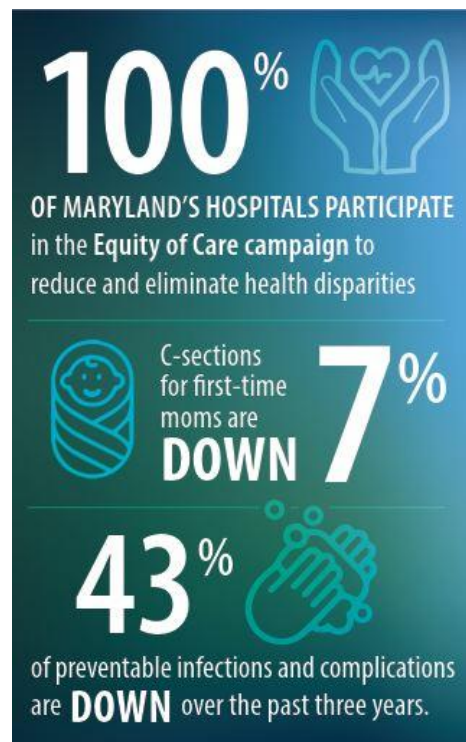
Maryland
Hospital Association

QUALITY MATTERS HOSPITALS PROTECTING PATIENTS

Maryland's hospitals provide healing and hope to our communities. These core values are woven into every one of Maryland's hospitals' missions. This dedication to providing safe, quality care takes many forms, from reducing the number of unnecessary hospitalizations for community members to driving down the number of infections acquired during a hospital stay.

Making good on this commitment takes a strong focus on better doctor-patient relationships, better coordination among hospitals and care providers, and better understanding of patients' needs, leading to better outcomes and better lives for all Marylanders. Here are a few highlights from the last year:

- **Reducing Complications and Infections** – Over the past three years, hospitals have reduced preventable infections and complications by more than 43 percent
- **Strengthening Patient Partnerships** – 97 percent of hospitals offer an online portal so patients can access medical records from their own devices
- **Reducing Readmissions** – Maryland's hospitals have outpaced the nation in Medicare readmissions reductions for four years in a row, and are now lower than the national rate
- **Opioid Crisis** – One-hundred percent of acute care hospitals are either prescribing or dispensing naloxone to patients treated for an overdose
- **Health Disparities** – One-hundred percent of Maryland's hospitals have committed to the national Equity of Care campaign, to reduce and eliminate health disparities across racial, ethnic and socioeconomic groups
- **Protecting Moms and Babies** – 31 of 32 of Maryland's birthing hospitals are involved in a two-year collaborative to reduce births by Cesarean section, which has reduced delivery rates for first-time moms by this method by 7 percent



With these positive outcomes and a focus on innovation that drives down costs while improving quality, Maryland's hospitals are on the leading edge of health care delivery in the nation.