



Maryland  
Hospital Association

**PRESS RELEASE**

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## **Data Show Improvements in Hospital Quality, Safety in Md.**

**Elkridge, Md.** — Maryland's hospitals are making great strides toward improving patient safety and overall hospital quality.

The findings, in the Maryland Hospital Association's (MHA) [Better Hospitals, Better Health: A Report on Quality, Safety & Population Health Management in Maryland's Hospitals](#), demonstrate hospitals' commitment to ensuring the safety and well being of every person who enters their doors.

The report highlights the results of longstanding, statewide efforts to improve the quality of care, with a focus on reducing readmissions and hospital-acquired infections.

Increasingly, a commitment to quality care and patient safety also takes hospitals into the communities they serve, where they are working to address social determinants of health, such as access to healthy food, transportation, employment, and more. That is why, this year, MHA expanded its report on quality and safety in Maryland's hospitals to include population health.

Here are some highlights from the report:

- 100 percent of hospitals either prescribe and/or dispense naloxone to patients with a substance use disorder or who were treated for an overdose at discharge
- 8.2 percent drop in Medicare readmissions from 2013 to 2017
- 21.8 percent reduction in MRSA between 2015 and 2017
- 12 percent reduction in C.diff between 2015 and 2017
- Maryland was among the top 10 states in 2017 for the percentage of patients who received proper care for severe sepsis and septic shock
- A clear majority of Marylanders like their hospital, with 90 percent rating their hospital as a 7 or higher on a 10-point scale in 2017 and 93 percent saying they would definitely or probably recommend the hospital to others
- The number of falls in hospitals that lead to serious injury or death declined by 11 percent from 2013 to 2017
- Most hospitals participated in the appropriate antibiotic use campaign since 2016
- Maryland's maternal mortality rate is improving and now has a lower rate than the nation
- More mothers are receiving prenatal care

“Maryland’s hospitals are committed to advancing health care and the health of all Marylanders,” said Maryland Hospital Association President & CEO Bob Atlas. “These new data illustrate that hospitals across our state are delivering high-quality, patient-centered care. And they are doing it more safely than ever.”

This success is built on doctor-patient relationships, coordination among hospitals and other providers, and dedication to addressing patients’ unique circumstances so they can live healthier lives.

Among the key partners hospitals continue to work with to achieve these improvements are the Maryland Hospital Association and the Maryland Patient Safety Center – the state’s designated patient safety organization.

For more information on innovative ways that the state’s health care community supports quality, safety and population health, visit [www.InnovateHealthMD.org](http://www.InnovateHealthMD.org).

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#### **About the Maryland Hospital Association**

*The Maryland Hospital serves Maryland’s hospitals and health systems through collective action to shape policies, practices, financing and performance to advance health care and the health of all Marylanders. For more information, visit [www.mhaonline.org](http://www.mhaonline.org).*