

Request for Public Comments on the Effectiveness of Maryland Patient Safety Center, Inc.

The Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) is seeking public comments regarding the performance of the entity known as Maryland Patient Safety Center, Inc. (MPSC), in order to inform a decision to be made by the MHCC regarding whether or not to re-designate the MPSC as Maryland's Patient Safety Center. The MHCC first awarded this designation to the MPSC in 2004, pursuant to statutory authority. The MPSC, which began as a collaboration between Delmarva (a quasi-public Medicare-certified entity) and the Maryland Hospital Association, was re-designated by MHCC as Maryland's Patient Safety Center in 2009, with the Maryland Hospital Association as the operating entity.

The purposes of the entity designated as the Maryland Patient Safety Center are: to provide a culture of patient safety in health care facilities; to assist providers and facilities with the identification and determination of the causes of adverse events and "near misses"; and to provide those involved in the health care delivery system with education about the processes that are likely to reduce the occurrence of adverse events.

The MHCC desires to receive public comments regarding two areas **on or before October 25, 2014**: (1) the effectiveness of the MPSC; and (2) future initiatives that Maryland's designated Patient Safety Center should pursue to improve patient safety in Maryland. Written comments may be sent by mail to Ben Steffen, Executive Director, MHCC, 4160 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21215 or, pdf'd and sent by email to Mr. Steffen at ben.steffen@maryland.gov.