

What is the Opioid Safe Hospital Designation?

To address California's opioid epidemic and accelerate hospital progress to reduce opioid related deaths, this fall Cal Hospital Compare (CHC) will designate select hospitals as *Opioid Safe* for the purpose of supporting continued quality improvement and recognizing hospitals for their contributions fighting the epidemic. CHC along with other partners will publicly recognize hospitals designated as *Opioid Safe*. CHC will measure opioid safety using a standardized self-assessment tool annually over a three-year period. To accelerate progress, CHC will also offer an annual, complimentary 5-part webinar series designed to leverage peer learning and support continuous quality improvement.

How was the Opioid Safe Hospital Designation developed?

CHC convened a multi-stakeholder work group to identify *how* to measure opioid safety in the hospital setting for the purpose of supporting continued quality improvement and recognize hospitals for their incredible work. CHC, in partnership with the multi-stakeholder work group, identified the following 4 elements as critical to opioid safety: prevent new opioid starts, identify and treat opioid use disorder, overdose prevention, and cross-cutting best practices. This work resulted in the *Opioid Safe Hospital Self-Assessment* to both measure opioid safety across California hospitals and provide a roadmap for change. CHC is fortunate to have received grant funding from the California Health Care Foundation to undertake this program.

What is the Opioid Safe Hospital Self-Assessment?

The *Opioid Safe Hospital Self-Assessment* measures opioid safety across the 4 domains mentioned above. CHC designed this tool as both a measurement and quality improvement tool. The self-assessment is rooted in evidence-based guidelines and practices, The Joint Commission's pain management standards, and the real-life expertise of our work group members. The *Opioid Safe Hospital Self-Assessment* outlines key milestones to achieving opioid safety but *how* hospitals get there is up to them. CHC encourages hospitals to use this self-assessment as a source of inspiration to design and implement initiatives to reduce opioid related deaths in a way that best fits the needs of any particular hospital and the community they serve.

What are the steps to completing the Opioid Safe Hospital Self-Assessment?

CHC recommends each hospital convene a multi-stakeholder workgroup to complete the *Opioid Safe Hospital Self-Assessment* to ensure accuracy and completeness. As a team, read through each measure description then select the level that best describes your hospital's work in that area. Please note that the levels build on each other, meaning a hospital must have implemented Levels 3 and 2 to achieve Level 1. Submit responses and any supporting documents via e-survey [here](#).

Who can participate in the Opioid Safe Hospital Designation?

All California, adult, acute care hospitals are eligible to apply for the Opioid Safe Hospital Designation.

Why should my hospital participate in Opioid Safe Hospital Designation?

Participation in the Opioid Safe Hospital Designation benefits both hospitals and patients. Hospitals aiming to jump start or accelerate their work on opioid safety will have access to resources and peers to support the work; resulting in better patient care for individuals with OUD and those at risk. Improvement activities align with state and national programs and accreditation programs. Hospitals achieving the Opioid Safe Hospital Designation can publicize their commitment and action on the opioid crisis. CHC along with other partners will publicly recognize hospitals designated as *Opioid Safe*; which will include recognition on the CHC website.

When is the assessment window?

Hospitals can submit their self-assessment responses via e-survey from May 13 – September 18, 2019. Results will be announced October 2019. Submit responses and any supporting documents via e-survey [here](#).

What resources are available to support improvement efforts?

In addition to the webinar series and materials, CHC is actively compiling relevant resources and making those accessible via the CHC website and mapping them to the *Opioid Safe Hospital Self-Assessment*.

What should hospitals expect in 2020?

The *Opioid Safe Hospital Self-Assessment* measures process and structural measures in 2019 (Year 1). As hospitals progress year over year CHC will introduce quantitative performance measures starting in 2020. So that CHC can align future iterations of this assessment tool with work already ongoing, we are asking hospitals to share how they measure opioid safe activities and their current performance targets. Sharing this information is entirely optional and will not be used to assess opioid safety in 2019.