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Newsletter

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New Report: 27 States and DC Remain on Cutting Edge of Patient Safety

Despite a recession that strained states' budgets and a lack of federal funding for the state-based reporting systems recommended by the Institute of Medicine, [27 states and the District of Columbia have stood firm in their commitment to patient safety](#). A

NASHP survey found, as of 2014, 26 states and the District of Columbia had implemented reporting systems to help address the critical issue of adverse medical events that cause patient death or serious harm in hospitals and other health care settings. In January, Texas joined their ranks, bringing the total number of states with adverse event reporting systems to 27.

New Report on Adverse Event Reporting Released

With the support of Massachusetts' Betsy Lehman Center for Patient Safety and Medical Error Reduction, NASHP released a [new report](#) that compares the latest results to a 2007 survey. The report found there continues to be wide variation in the types of events reported to states.

However, today's systems are more technologically advanced, and most states communicate system findings to facilities and the public. In fact, eight states publicly report system findings more frequently than they did in 2007.

States recognize the need for further action and progress. States are challenged by resource limitations and provider resistance to develop robust reporting systems that work to reduce adverse events and improve patient safety. However 23 systems were reported to have had a positive impact by increasing facility trust, identifying provider education needs, facilitating state tracking of patient safety information, or assisting facilities in implementing improvement strategies.

To learn more, see the [full report](#) and a series of [five case studies](#) of systems and partnerships in Massachusetts, Maryland, New York, Oregon, and Pennsylvania.

Spotlight on Corporate Partner: Optum

Optum is a health services company with more than 35,000 people dedicated to making the health system work better for everyone. Their solutions and services are used at nearly every point in the health care system, from provider selection to

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diagnosis and treatment, and from network management, administration and payments to the innovation of better medications, therapies, and procedures. For more information visit, <http://www.optum.com> or to learn more about NASHP partnerships please email development@nashp.org.

National Academy for State Health Policy

The National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) is an independent academy of state health policymakers who are dedicated to helping states achieve excellence in health policy and practice. A non-profit and non-partisan organization, NASHP provides a forum for constructive work across branches and agencies of state government on critical health policy issues. For more information visit www.nashp.org.

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