

Quality of Care Information Protection Act (QCIPA)

Presented to:

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The Quality of Care Information Protection Act, 2016 (QCIPA)

QCIPA, 2016 enables health care providers to have protected quality improvement discussions to help improve patient safety while still ensuring that patients and their authorized representatives have access to the facts about a critical incident.

The Quality of Care Information Protection Act, 2016 (QCIPA)

The goal of QCIPA is to create a safe space for health professionals to talk openly about quality improvement, including the potential cause of any critical incidents, without fear that the information will be used against them

2014: Original legislation

2016: Updated to increase transparency by:

- Affirming the rights of patients to access information about their own health care
- Clarifying that facts about critical incidents cannot be withheld from affected patients and their families
- Requiring the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care to review QCIPA every five years

What is Quality of Care Information?

Information that

- a. is collected or prepared by or for a quality of care committee for the sole or primary purpose of assisting the committee in carrying out its quality of care functions,
- b. relates to the discussions and deliberations of a quality of care committee in carrying out its quality of care functions, or
- c. relates solely or primarily to any activity that a quality of care committee carries on as part of its quality of care functions, including information contained in records that a quality of care committee creates or maintains related to its quality of care functions

Quality of Care information is not admissible in evidence in a proceeding.



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What is a Quality of Care Committee (MQA, Board Quality)?

- A committee one or more individuals that performs quality of care functions that is established, appointed or approved, by a health facility or a combination of health facilities.
- “Quality of care functions”, in respect of a quality of care committee, means activities carried on for the purpose of studying, assessing or evaluating the provision of health care with a view to improving or maintaining the quality of the health care and include conducting reviews of critical incidents

Quality of Care Reviews

- Quality Issues are brought forward in a variety of ways including incident reports, reports from Managers; requests from the patient/family, the coroner, a staff member or a physician to conduct a review; case identified in other committees (e.g. Pharmacy and Therapeutics) etc.
- Dr. Cunniffe (MQA, Chair), VP Patient Care, Chief Nursing Officer acts as a clearing house for quality issues to be discussed and determines the appropriate direction to investigate and manage these situations. Those identified with systemic flaws requiring resolution go to Quality of Care reviews.

Quality of Care Reviews

- Quality of Care reviews are only put under the QCIPA umbrella when there is concern that inflammatory discussion or allegations may be brought forward. Once QCIPA is invoked, it cannot be lifted. It cannot be invoked in hindsight.
- Due to the perception that invoking QCIPA is a way for the hospital to “hide” information, this is done very judiciously.

Quality of Care Reviews - MQA

- Currently the approach is to go “in camera” and invoke QCIPA only when necessary while presenting quality reviews for discussion
- The Quality of Care reviews will be reviewed using a systemic approach - Quality Root Cause Analysis
- Quality improvement(s) will go to MQA for monitoring and to track the completion of quality recommendations

Questions?



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