

Dodge, Debra J

From: Harrington, Karynlee
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2015 8:45 AM
To: Dodge, Debra J; Adams, Linda
Subject: FW: MHDO Nurse sensitive measures

Public comment below. K

From: kathydayrn@aol.com [<mailto:kathydayrn@aol.com>]
Sent: Friday, December 11, 2015 7:37 PM
To: Harrington, Karynlee
Subject: MHDO Nurse sensitive measures

December 10, 2015

As a healthcare consumer, patient, retired RN and patient safety advocate, I object to the removal of nurse sensitive measures in the MHDO reporting (90-590. Chapter 270, Section 5). The measures considered for removal are quality indicators. If a patient cannot find information about the number of hours of professional registered nursing care they will receive, they cannot gauge how safe they will be in a Maine Hospital. There is an obvious and proven correlation between patient safety, and how accessible a patient's RN is. If there are inadequate numbers of qualified professional nurses to care for the patients, more patients will be harmed. Delayed or missed medications, medical errors, falls, bedsores, poor patient hygiene, hospital associated infections are all related to the number of qualified professional nurses and the number of direct nursing care contact hours available to patients while hospitalized.

Nurses and patients know how important it is to have a nurse available when needed. Efficient, safe and patient centered care from professional nursing staff is the primary reason patients are hospitalized.

Please do not remove the nurse sensitive measures from the mandatory reporting at MHDO and please consider using these measures in the quality reporting of the new Compare Maine website. Increasing transparency will set Maine apart from other States. Let's not surrender to the pressure from the healthcare industry/corporations to decrease this much needed transparency. We cannot change or improve what we do not monitor, measure and publicly report.

Thank you.

Kathy Day RN (retired) Patient Safety Advocate