

9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
**I AM**  
**PATIENT**  
**SAFETY**  
ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS



**Key Dates**

**Nomination Period: Oct. 11 – Dec. 10, 2021**

**Winner Announcement: Feb. 9, 2022**

We invite hospitals, ambulatory surgical facilities, birthing centers, abortion facilities, long-term care facilities, and physician offices to submit nominations of individuals or teams who have made a difference in patient safety for the **9<sup>th</sup> annual I AM Patient Safety Achievement Awards**.

This year we are happy to announce two new award categories, Sepsis and Time-Outs.

Each year, we recognize and celebrate healthcare staff for their individual or collective commitment to and influences on patient safety. It is a chance for us to celebrate the things that go right each day in healthcare to make our patients safer.

*Nominations will only be considered for a single category.*

- Ambulatory Surgery Facility
- Improving Diagnosis
- Individual Impact
- Long-Term Care Facility
- Nationwide Warriors
- Physician Offices
- Safety Story
- Sepsis
- Time-Outs
- Transparency and Safety in Healthcare

**Nominate a Patient Safety Hero at:**  
**[patientsafety.pa.gov](https://patientsafety.pa.gov)**

# Award Categories | Descriptions & Examples

## **AMBULATORY SURGERY FACILITY** separately licensed

- The winner will be an individual or a team who advanced surgical safety
- Examples include improving the time-out process, involving patients in an improvement project, and developing an innovative intervention to prevent surgical site infections

## **IMPROVING DIAGNOSIS**

- The winner will be an individual or a team who enhanced the diagnostic process or made considerable effort to reduce diagnostic error
- Examples include improving patient/family communication around the diagnostic process; expanding the diagnostic team with nonproviders, e.g., nurses, therapists, techs, and patients; crafting technological solutions to reduce misdiagnosis; and improving the diagnosis and management of a medical condition

## **INDIVIDUAL IMPACT- GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND**

- The winner will be an individual who made a significant impact on a patient or their facility
- Examples include taking steps to provide exceptional patient care, providing a heartfelt moment for a patient/colleague, creating a fun/innovative care environment, and stories that makes you say "Wow!"

## **LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY** separately licensed

- The winner will be an individual or a team who advanced patient safety at a long-term care facility
- Examples include identifying and communicating a safety concern, initiating a new program/process to prevent infections, involving residents in a patient safety initiative, and reducing the rate of a healthcare-associated infection or other safety-related metric

## **NATIONWIDE WARRIORS**

- Open to any individual or team in the United States
- The winner will be an individual or a team who went above and beyond to advance patient safety, developed innovative harm reduction strategies, or created a nurturing care environment for their patients

## **PHYSICIAN OFFICES**

- Open to medical offices independently licensed or part of a larger health system
- The winner will be an individual or team who demonstrated the importance of patient safety in the physician office setting

## **SEPSIS**

- The winner will be an individual or a team who advanced the diagnosis or treatment of sepsis
- Examples include developing a new/better process for early recognition, creating a more robust treatment model, or implementing a successful initiative to reduce sepsis mortality

## **SAFETY STORY (NEAR MISS OR CLOSE CALL)**

- Near misses are circumstances that could have caused patient harm but did not
- The winner will be an individual or a team who intervened before an injury occurred
- Examples include reporting an event catalyzed facility-wide change, implementing a new inspection process following equipment failure, and identifying a potentially catastrophic situation

## **TRANSPARENCY AND SAFETY IN HEALTHCARE**

- The winner will be an individual or a team who improved transparency to advance patient safety
- Examples include demonstrating commitment to transparency by leadership, broadly disseminating lessons learned from an event, designing and implementing a new process to link disclosure and system improvement, and employing an integrated team approach to safety and transparency

## **TIME-OUTS**

- The winner will be an individual or a team who best used or innovated time-outs
- Examples include using a time-out to prevent an adverse event, implementing bedside/procedural time-outs, or innovating surgical time-outs

### **Prepare for Submission**

- ☐ Name of person(s) or department being nominated
- ☐ Narrative description of the event or initiative
  - 500 words or less
  - No identifiers
- ☐ Submission category
- ☐ Contact information of individual(s) to coordinate future communication with PSA