Top 10 Patient Safety Issues for Thailand

OVERVIEW

Thailand has a national policy known as "Patient and Personnel (2P) Safety" to improve the quality and safety of healthcare services affecting to both patients and personnel. 2P Safety policy was adopted in 2016 by the Thai Ministry of Public Health and others 15 health organizations, including the Healthcare Accreditation Institute (Public Organization) or HAI Thailand.

Accordingly, HAI Thailand serves as the national agency responsible for the medical adverse events caused permanent patient harm, required life-saving intervention, or contributed to death through benefits of using data from the National Reporting and Learning System (NRLS). The Data from NRLS system can report significant numbers of patients and healthcare professionals harmed and killed by medical errors. Therefore, 2P Safety policy is a priority action of creating culture safety awareness to avoidable harm.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In 2022, HAI Thailand and ECRI Asia Pacific signed a MoU with the objective to improve patient safety in Thailand through sharing of evidence-based knowledge and information to the healthcare community. ECRI is an international non-profit organization dedicated to advance patient safety and healthcare quality through evidence-based research. Every year, ECRI publishes the ECRI Top 10 Patient Safety Concerns report to identify serious safety threats and recommend systems-based approaches to eliminate them. In doing so, the report helps organizations achieve total systems safety.

As part of HAI and ECRI's MoU agreement, a Top 10 Patient Safety Issues for Thailand will be jointly developed to identify patient safety challenges faced by Thai hospitals which takes into context the local healthcare environment and processes. The report hopes to provide insights into the top patient safety incidents in Thailand which has resulted in significant harm to patients and healthcare personnels.

Top 10 Patient Safety Issues for Thailand

GOAL

The Top 10 Patient Safety Issues for Thailand report is developed to support local healthcare organizations in their efforts to proactively identify and respond to threats to patient safety. The report offers recommendations from ECRI and HAI experts to address each item on the Top 10 list.
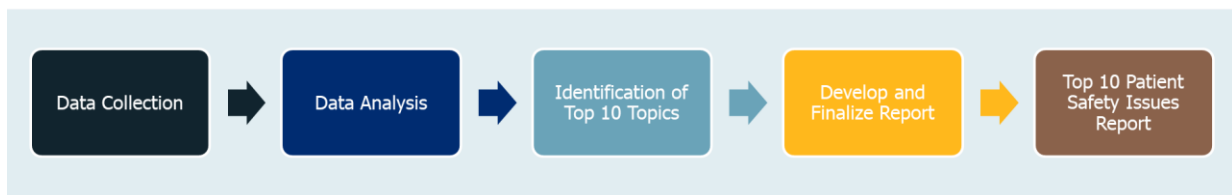
Detailed objectives:

- To identify existing and imminent patient safety challenges faced by Thailand healthcare providers through analysis of patient safety data (data from NRLS System) and discussion with local healthcare experts.
- To develop and share recommendations to support continuous improvement for the issues identified.
- To promote learning healthcare by encouraging proper reporting, investigation, and analysis of reported events.

METHODOLOGY

The 2023 inaugural Top 10 Patient Safety Issues for Thailand report will be heavily based on local expert input and supplemented by available data from NRLS system. It is hoped that future reports will be developed using evidence-based incident report data analyses, which will create a more detailed and comprehensive report with actionable recommendations that targets the root causes of the issues. This can be enabled by having structured and well-defined incident reports submitted to NRLS, with proper root cause analyses performed to pinpoint system weaknesses and factors contributing to the incident.

The methodology for the 2023 Top 10 Patient Safety Issues report for Thailand is explained below.

i. *Data Collection and Analysis:*

Data from NRLS will be reviewed to identify patient safety incident trends. Incident types will be based on Safety Essential Standards to facilitate data analysis. The top incident types will be shortlisted for further analysis and discussion with HAI experts.

An on-site workshop will be held to gather input from local hospital representatives and HAI experts on the contributing factors leading to an incident, as well as to discuss recommendations to address the challenges. ECRI will share international experience and best practices for the topics discussed. Prior to the workshop, a survey will be conducted to gather the experts' initial thoughts on the contributing factors of the incident types, which will then be used to guide discussion during the on-site workshop.

ii. *Identification of Top 10 Topics:*

A voting process will be conducted during the 23rd HA National Forum on 15-17 March 2023 to select the final Top 10 topics. It is planned for the voting to be participated by HAI experts, local healthcare stakeholders, key hospital leaders. The Top 10 Patient Safety Issues shall be chosen and ranked based on the following criteria:

iii. *Developing, finalizing, and publishing of report:*

ECRI will perform analysis of the voting results and develop the final report. HAI will translate the completed report to Thai. The final report is targeted to be published in June 2023.