




If you have any further questions on the information below, please feel free to contact Jennie Anderson, Risk and Quality Coordinator for Decatur Health at 785-475-2208 extension 133

Decatur Health made massive strides towards facility wide success during 2023 - leading us to become a Chartis Top 100 Critical Access Hospitals in 2023! While there were many individual departmental projects in 2023, the five projects below were identified and implemented thanks to collaboration from all of our staff.

OUR PROJECTS	Severe Sepsis & Septic Shock	Falls Complete Reduction	Community Collaboration & Integration	Patient & Family Engagement	Antibiotic Stewardship Program
<p>Context</p>	<p>Sepsis is the body's response to an infection which can lead to tissue damage, organ failure, and death.</p> <p>SEPSIS IS THE NUMBER ONE...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ...cause of death in hospitals ...of hospital readmissions ...healthcare cost 	<p>Up to 1 million hospitalized patients fall annually in the U.S. In 2022, Decatur Health recorded 18 falls, including one sentinel event resulting in major patient injury.</p>	<p>Comprehensive and appropriate community engagement is associated with higher teamwork, better inpatient satisfaction scores, and improved patient outcomes</p>	<p>Research shows improved patient satisfaction and outcomes when hospitals actively work to improve quality of care to include input from patients, families, and community members.</p>	<p>Antimicrobial resistance is a significant global health threat, killing at least 1.27 million people worldwide and associated with nearly 5 million deaths in 2019.</p>
<p>Objective</p>	<p>Decatur Health aimed to improve our care of sepsis patients and drilled down on ensuring all 4 core measures of best practice rapid care are being met. This leads to the best chances of full patient recovery without organ dysfunction.</p>	<p>The hospital sought to decrease falls & fall-related injury by developing a multi-departmental system to address fall-risk, and to implement a variety of safety measures to reduce fall rates.</p>		<p>Decatur Health wanted to create a platform that patients and family members could openly discuss concerns and suggestions - without any judgement or repercussions and to ensure that there is a path to making change.</p>	<p>Decatur Health aimed to optimize antibiotic treatment resulting in the best outcome with minimal toxicity to the patient. This is critical to effectively treat infections and protect patients from harm caused by unnecessary antibiotic use.</p>
<p>Activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Measure blood lactate level within 1 hour of arriving to the hospital -Send out blood cultures to determine best course of antibiotics for each patient's specific infection -Administer IV fluids rapidly to help their body fight the infection -Administer rapid broad spectrum antibiotics immediately after blood cultures have been obtained to aide the body in beginning to fight off this often deadly infection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Measure a patient's fall risk factors each shift & update care plans accordingly. - Improve strength of weaker patients via Physical Therapy. - Utilize yellow star magnets, socks, & bracelets to help staff quickly identify high fall risk patients. - Use gait belts for all patient transfers, and use grab bars & assistive devices when needed. 		<p>Decatur Health's Patient and Family Advisory Council was created.</p> <p>The council consists of health care staff, community advisors, as well as patients and family members - working together to improve the quality of our hospital's care based on their experiences.</p>	<p>The hospital focused efforts on measuring and improving prescribing practices, on reducing the unnecessary use of antibiotics, and furthering facility wide education. The creation of a process to track patients with infections and the source of those infections will lead to the reduction of the emergence of antimicrobial resistance.</p>
<p>Results</p>	<p>Our sepsis mortality rate has dropped 78% - in both our emergency and inpatient departments</p> <p>Decatur Health is a top performer in an 8 state area!</p>	<p>5 falls total 2023 and 0 falls with major injury!</p> <p>72% Less falls from 2022!</p>	<p>Pink Out, Coins for Kids at the city pool, taking first place in the Christmas Light Parade, staff passing out candy at the Spook Parade, Walk with a Doc, and a weekly Parkinsons class - these are just some of the fun events we participated in during 2023!</p>	 <p>Thank you to our steering committee:</p> <p>Julie Smith, CEO Rachel Baker, CNO Cherish Seifert, LBSW Jordan Stephenson, DOCO</p>	<p>97% improvement from 2022 for antibiotic appropriateness</p> <p>2022 had an error rate of 4.47%, while 2023 had a marked decreased error rate of 1.55%</p>