

PATIENT SAFETY AWARD AND POSTER SYMPOSIUM

PATIENT SAFETY CONFERENCE & ANNUAL FORUM

July 21 - 22, 2026

The Meadows Events and Conference Center | 1 Prairie
Meadows Dr. | Altoona, Iowa

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July 21 - 22, 2026

Apply + Design



June 1st

Application + Poster
Design Deadline

Finalize



July 1st

Submit Abstract

Prepare



July 21st

Present
Poster

ABOUT THE PATIENT SAFETY AWARD AND SYMPOSIUM

WHY PARTICIPATE?

The Compass Healthcare Collaborative (Compass) Patient Safety Award and Poster Symposium will be an opportunity for promoting and sharing best practices during the Compass Patient Safety Conference on **July 21st & 22nd, 2026**. The Patient Safety Awards will recognize outstanding leadership and achievement demonstrated by healthcare providers, hospitals, communities, clinics, and organizations. The award will honor champions who support initiatives that improve patient safety, promote population health, reduce the risk of harm, and encourage person-centered health.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE? (DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS NOTED THROUGHOUT)

- **Submit a Poster Symposium Application**
 - This form officially enters your project into the symposium and award review process
 - Create a Poster Using the **Provided Template - Must Submit With Application by June 1st**
 - Submit poster abstract to education@compasshcc.org by July 1st
- **Prepare Two Presentations:**
 - **Main Presentation: 5–10 Minute Presentation** for the Review Panel
 - This will be your formal presentation to the judges
 - **2–3 Minute Mini Presentation** during the Symposium
 - A brief overview to share with attendees throughout the event
- **Awards**
 - One award will be presented per category, and a “Fan Favorite” award will be determined by attendee votes during the symposium

Participants are allowed to submit more than one poster as long as each poster is for a different category. Compass will provide one free conference admission per organization, regardless of the number of poster submissions. The organization may select multiple persons to present poster(s); however, only a total of one **(1) free admission** per participating organization will be provided. Awards will be publicly presented at the Compass Patient Safety Conference on September 10.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Individuals, hospitals, coalitions, community organizations, healthcare teams, physician practices, and other healthcare professionals are encouraged to apply for the Compass Patient Safety Award and Poster Symposium.

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STEP ONE: SUBMIT ENTRY FOR PATIENT SAFETY AWARD (JUNE 22ND)

The application form is a commitment to submit a poster and present at the symposium. The application form must be submitted [online](#).

Applicants may submit a poster in the following categories. One poster per category per organization can be submitted. Participants may choose to submit more than one application. Space is limited to 30 total posters.

CATEGORIES

- Achievement in improving patient safety (reducing healthcare-acquired conditions/infections, reducing preventable conditions, medication safety, risk reduction, etc.)
- Achievement in improving care transitions (e.g., readmissions, community care coordination)
- Achievement in improving health outcomes (e.g., patient safety across the board, chronic disease care)
- Achievement in improving person and family engagement
- Achievement in improving community service integration

STEP TWO: DESIGN YOUR POSTER

Participants, please use the [Poster Symposium Template](#) as a guide for setting up your PowerPoint (PPT) slide. This ensures consistency in design and makes the printing process smooth and efficient. We encourage you to be creative with your poster design! For inspiration, examples of past posters are included below. In addition to your poster, please submit a short abstract (1 paragraph) describing your project. This abstract will be included in the Participant Guide available during the event.

Posters will be printed free of charge by Compass and will be set up for you at the symposium.

Content Development

- Use of a planned method for improvement, such as a Plan, Do, Study, Act (PDSA) cycle, Lean, or Six Sigma, is strongly encouraged.
- Include information on your interdisciplinary team when applicable.
- Improvement in documenting data utilization, such as survey results, audit findings, graphs, or other illustrations, is highly encouraged.
- A projected plan for sustainability should be included.

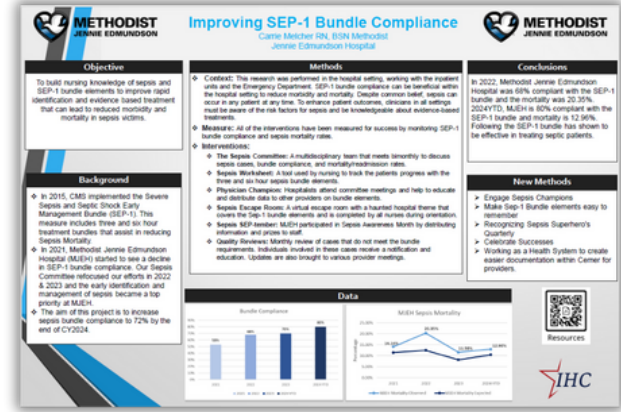
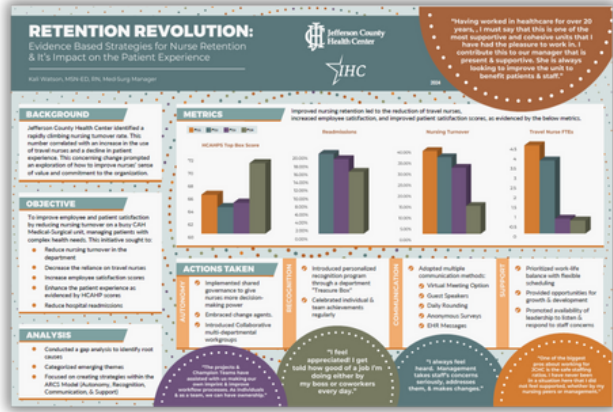
Poster Specifications

- Use the PowerPoint Template. The printed posters will be 24" H x 36" W.
- Posters will be printed in full color by Compass.
- Font size should be no smaller than 8pt.
- Please title your PowerPoint document the same as your poster

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Examples



STEP THREE: SUBMIT YOUR POSTER & ABSTRACT (JULY 1ST)

What to Submit

- Poster PowerPoint- Please submit as a PowerPoint file
- Abstract - Please submit a brief overview of your project

How to Submit

- Make sure your PPT document is titled the same as your poster title
- Poster, PowerPoint will be submitted with your application by **June 1st**
- Submit your poster abstract to education@compasshcc.org by **July 1st**



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STEP FOUR: PREPARE TO PRESENT

- **Posters** will be printed by Compass and set up for you at the symposium.
- **Main Poster Presentation** – July 21st, 2026 (Time TBA)
 - This will consist of a 10-minute presentation in front of approximately 3 judges.
 - Your poster and abstract will be printed by Compass and ready for presentation. You may take the poster with you afterward.
 - You will be notified of your presentation time before the event.
- **Round Robin - Mini Poster Presentation** – July 21st, 2026
 - We ask that you present a 3-minute overview (elevator pitch) of your poster to the larger audience
 - Compass will display your poster on the large screen during your presentation. This is an opportunity for attendees to hear from you directly. If they want to know more or have questions, we will encourage them to follow up with you at your poster.
 - This round robin does not replace your official 10-minute presentation.
- **A designated** representative of your team must be available during your assigned time(s)

Judging Information

All submissions for the Compass Poster Symposium will be reviewed by an independent committee of healthcare professionals experienced in improvement and evidence-based practice. Presentations will be judged on the following scoring criteria, with a 1-5 point rating system (5 = best) for each listed criterion.

- Demonstrates the process for measuring.
- Demonstrates harm reduction, utilizing evidence-based practices successful in driving down harm.
- Demonstrates sustainability and ability to produce results over time.
- Demonstrates patient and family engagement as integral to measurable success.
- Demonstrates culture change.

Compass reserves the right to make more than one award per category or to make no awards per category.

STEP FIVE: PRESENT YOUR POSTER (JULY 21ST)

NOTE: Award winners will be announced on July 22nd, immediately following the lunch break. Compass requests that at least one representative for each poster be present for the ceremony. Printed posters will be available for representatives to take home after the two-day event.

Event Location

The Meadows Events and Conference Center
1 Prairie Meadows Dr.
Altoona, IA 50009