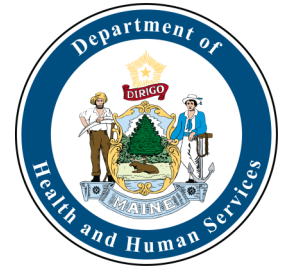

Sentinel Event Newsletter

Division of Licensing and Certification
Maine Department of Health and Human Services



Issue 30, December 2021

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- **By the Numbers: Sentinel events associated with medication errors**
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Becker's - Less discussed consequences of health care's labor shortage

The health care industry's staffing shortage crisis has had clear consequences for care delivery and efficiency.

A few ways health care has been impacted:

- High Covid-19 patient volume
- Staff departures
- Temporarily closing facilities/units
- Pause nonemergency surgeries

[Read full article here](#)

By the Numbers: Sentinel events associated with medication errors

The Sentinel Events Team looked at medication errors reported for the last five years. The breakdown of cases reported showed;

Total cases reported = 43

Near misses = 10

Nonreportable events = 0

Sentinel events = 33

Deprescribing as a Patient Safety Strategy

A recent article in AHRQ looked at deprescribing as a patient safety strategy. It is an intervention used to reduce the risk of adverse drug events that can result from polypharmacy.

[Read full article here](#)



AHRQ – Systematic Review – Nurses’ Safety Attitudes

Nurses’ safety attitudes towards patient safety culture has been shown to impact patient outcomes in acute care hospitals, resulting in:

- Missed nursing care
- Iatrogenic harm
- Other adverse events

[Download AHRQ’s report here](#)



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