



## News Release

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### **Patient Deterioration on the minds of leaders at 2017 HIROC Conference**

**(Toronto) March 30, 2017** – Failure to identify and respond to changing patient status or deterioration is HIROC's second highest acute-care risk based on medical legal claims costs.

"We know this is more than just a HIROC issue," said Carrie-Lynn Haines, Senior Healthcare Risk Management Specialist at HIROC. "It reaches beyond Canadian hospitals." Unrecognized Patient Deterioration was listed as the second highest concern in *Top 10 Patient Safety Concerns for Healthcare Organizations 2017*, a report published by the American Emergency Care Research Institute (ECRI).

Patient deterioration, which occurs when changes to the status of a patient are not recognized or acted upon, will be one of the topics discussed at the HIROC Conference on April 24, 2017 at the Sheraton Centre, Toronto.

Sabina Robin, Patients for Patient Safety Canada member and WHO Patient Safety Champion, will lead the session with a very personal patient story. Robin lost her infant daughter in 2004 and has since worked with physicians and hospitals to improve systems and processes. Read more about [Sabina's story](#) on the Patient Stories section of the Canadian Patient Safety Institute's (CPSI) website.

CPSI's Carla Williams, Patient Safety Improvement Lead, will present on the role [SHIFT to Safety](#) plays in mitigating patient deterioration through outlining resources available for members of the public, healthcare providers and leaders. Delegates will also hear from Dr. Alison Fox-Robichaud, President of the Canadian Critical Care Society and an Intensivist at Hamilton Health Sciences. She will speak about the implementation of a Meditech-based electronic Early Warning Score that tracks changes in vital signs as part of the hospital's rapid response system.

The conference session will offer delegates a first-hand look at how HIROC has partnered with CPSI, Patients for Patient Safety Canada and healthcare organizations across Canada to shift the safety discussion around patient deterioration. Haines speaks not just for HIROC but for all the partners in stating that, "The goal is to ensure every patient care experience is a safer one."

To learn more or register for the HIROC conference, go to HIROC.com: <https://www.hiroc.com/Risk-Management/RM-Conference/2017.aspx>

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**About the Healthcare Insurance Reciprocal of Canada – HIROC**

In 1987, 53 Ontario hospitals and healthcare organizations made the historic move to a self-administered liability insurance plan. The Hospital Insurance Reciprocal of Ontario (HIRO), commenced business on July 1 of that year. Today, HIROC is a national organization and Canada's largest non-profit healthcare liability insurer, completely owned by its subscribers.

HIROC is guided by its vision of partnering to create the safest healthcare system. They do this by providing cost-effective and innovative insurance and risk management solutions that help its subscribers make better decisions. As a non-profit reciprocal, surplus funds are returned to its subscribers for reinvestment in the healthcare system. For more information go to:

<https://www.hiroc.com>.