



ASCENSION/ST. VINCENT'S HEALTH CONTINUING EDUCATION MISSION STATEMENT

Introduction

The Ascension CE Department serves to improve professional knowledge and skills; fosters a positive impact on patient outcomes; exposes clinicians to new information; and develops an interdisciplinary, healthcare team approach to treating patients and improving community/population health through the development and implementation of cost-effective, evidence-based education programs.

Ascension/St. Vincent's Health is the largest nonprofit health system in the U.S. and the world's largest Catholic health system. Ascension Alabama facilitates best practices, inter-professional learning which enhances the knowledge, skills and practices of the healthcare team. The health system is committed to empowering an inter-professional team of healthcare professionals to learn by the team for the team, as codified in the strategic plan including:

- To provide practicing interdisciplinary teams with educational opportunities that will contribute to their professional learning, maintain clinical competency, promote the appropriate implementation of medical advances and improve skills at delivering care in a compassionate environment
- Implement a systems approach within Ascension Alabama and Ascension regions via Joint Providership relationships to integrate measures of access, quality, patient safety, medical readiness, and efficiency in assessing program effectiveness
- Lead our Higher Reliability with processes, behaviors, transparency and teams in place to maximize safety, lead with quality and improve patient outcomes
- Continue to maintain good standing with our accrediting organizations and expand the scope of the CE subject matter to meet the diverse and continually evolving needs of the healthcare professional

The Ascension/St. Vincent's Health CE program is an important mechanism to provide education to the healthcare team that is designed to change behaviors and improve patient outcomes by:

- Linking with findings from hospital and system-based quality improvement departments to facilitate changing practitioner behaviors that will lead to realizing quality and patient safety goals.

- Increasing communication by and between team members to improve transition in care and eliminate error that impact patient safety.
- Including a broad range of educational activities that address the professional development of physicians, nurses, pharmacists and other health professionals.

Expected Results of the CE Program

The overall Ascension CE program delivers continuing education planned by the healthcare team for the healthcare team and is committed to producing and delivering educational activities that fosters and maintains the advancement of learners' medical knowledge, skills/strategies, develops their teaching skills, improves their performance, and/or improves patient outcomes.

The expected results of the education Ascension/St. Vincent's Health provides its learners will:

- Produce greater confidence in ability to achieve the desired results of educational interventions expressed as expressed in activity objectives.
- Demonstrate improvement in learner ability to apply care strategies to a practice situation using the knowledge gained and strategies learned, as shown in case-based pre-/post-test analyses.
- Make a commitment to change their practice/behavior and/or apply newly acquired strategies as measured immediately after the activity.
- Confirmation that intended changes was applied to practice through follow-up surveys.
- Demonstrate improvement in quality measurements and/or patient outcomes through quality and/or patient safety measurements.

The results of these assessments will be analyzed to guide program changes and improvements. The Ascension CE Committee will determine the success of the CE Mission by evaluating the components outlined above, assessing compliance with the Joint Accreditation Criteria, identifying improvements to be made, and reviewing the results of implemented improvement recommendations.

Approved by the Ascension CE Committee and Ascension/St. Vincent's Health Board of Directors 6/27/2019

ASCENSION/ST. VINCENT'S HEALTH:

*Healthcare That Works, Healthcare That Is Safe
Healthcare That Leaves No One Behind, for Life*
