



Winter Park
TECH

Orange County Public Schools
WINTER PARK TECH
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Preventing Medical Errors

Course Overview:

This course is mandated for all Florida licensed healthcare professional in 456.013 F.S. The content, guided by the licensing board, includes an overview of the IOM Report: "To ERR IS Human." It examines the scope of the medical error problem, factors that impact occurrences of medical errors, error prone settings, develop safety plans, design of safe systems through "Root Cause Analysis", assessment of safety needs of special problem reporting of medical errors, and the education of patient and public populations.

Eligibility:

Healthcare Professionals

Content:

Medical errors are one of the Nation's leading causes of death and injury. A recent report by the Institute of Medicine estimates that as many as 44,000 to 98,000 people die in U.S. hospitals each year as the result of medical errors. This means that more people die from medical errors than from motor vehicle accidents, breast cancer, or AIDS.

What are Medical Errors? Medical errors happen when something that was planned as a part of medical care does not work out, or when the wrong plan was used in the first place. They can happen during even the most routine tasks, such as when a hospital patient on a salt-free diet is given a high-salt meal. Most errors result from problems created by today's complex health care system. However, errors also happen when doctors and their patients have problems communicating. For example, a recent study supported by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) found that doctors often do not do enough to help their patients make informed decisions. Uninvolved and uninformed patients are less likely to accept the doctor's choice of treatment and less likely to do what they need to do to make the treatment work.