

**DATE:** June 29, 2023  
**TO:** Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Regina M. Hoffman, MBA, RN  
Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** Executive Director's Report for June 29, 2023 Board Meeting

## Event Reporting, Data Science & Research

### ***PA-PSRS***

In April 2023, the Authority successfully performed the following PA-PSRS AMOD software upgrade:

- AMOD Release 3.7 was implemented on April 27, 2023 with 19 enhancements and maintenance upgrades.

AMOD Release 3.8 is scheduled for July 20, 2023 with 14 enhancements and maintenance upgrades.

The Authority and Gainwell staff modified the Authority web site home page to spotlight Safety Alerts.

**The Authority and Gainwell continue to prioritize and schedule PA-PSRS system enhancements through the remainder of 2023.**

## Data Science & Research

The Data Science & Research Team (DSRT) continues to perform work in accordance with its five core objectives:

1. Review and analyze patient safety and healthcare-associated infection data using accepted scientific methods to identify important trends.
2. Communicate key data insights and actionable recommendations to internal and external stakeholders.
3. Expand upon current literature and knowledge in the healthcare community by performing original research and authoring quality manuscripts for publication in *Patient Safety* and outside journals.
4. Strengthen the quality and reliability of PA-PSRS data.
5. Provide healthcare facilities with valuable feedback and tools they can use to glean new insights from their data.

## ***Manuscripts***

- Neonatal Complications.  
Pending
- Annual Data Analyses

### [Patient Safety Trends in 2022: An Analysis of 256,679 Serious Events and Incidents From the Nation's Largest Event Reporting Database](#)

The annual analysis of 2022 Acute Care data was completed and pre-published in April 2023. The article will be featured in the June issue of *Patient Safety*.

- [Long-Term Care Healthcare-Associated Infections in 2022: An Analysis of 20,216 Reports](#)

The annual analysis of 2022 Long-Term care data was completed and pre-published in April 2023. The article will be featured in the June issue of *Patient Safety*.

## ***MedStar Health Research Institute (MHRI)***

MHRI completed two analyses that were published in the spring issue of *Patient Safety*. One on [alarm design and use in healthcare](#) and the other focusing on assessing [equipment, supply, and device](#) related issues. Additionally, they finished an analysis on display design in healthcare which is planned for the June issue of *Patient Safety* and a manuscript on nurse wellbeing that will be published later this year.

## ***High Harm Events***

The executive director, director of data science and research, director of outreach and education, analysts, and field staff review all high harm events at each weekly clinical team meeting to identify opportunities for improvement, additional information, or other follow up with facilities.

## **Center of Excellence for Improving Diagnosis**

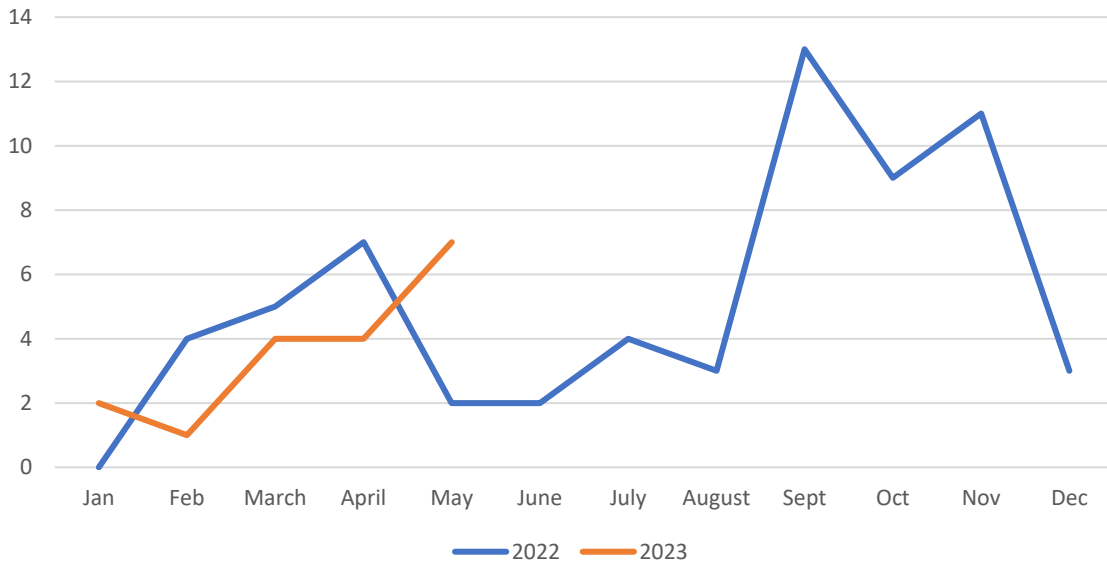
The Center of Excellence and PSL teams are piloting version 1.0 of a comprehensive assessment tool using a consensus building process to measure organizational maturity across key domains of diagnostic excellence in Pennsylvania hospitals. Despite some attrition due to competing priorities and limited resources within

facilities, recruitment and engagement efforts continue. As of early June, five hospitals have fully completed the project and one hospital is in the final stage.

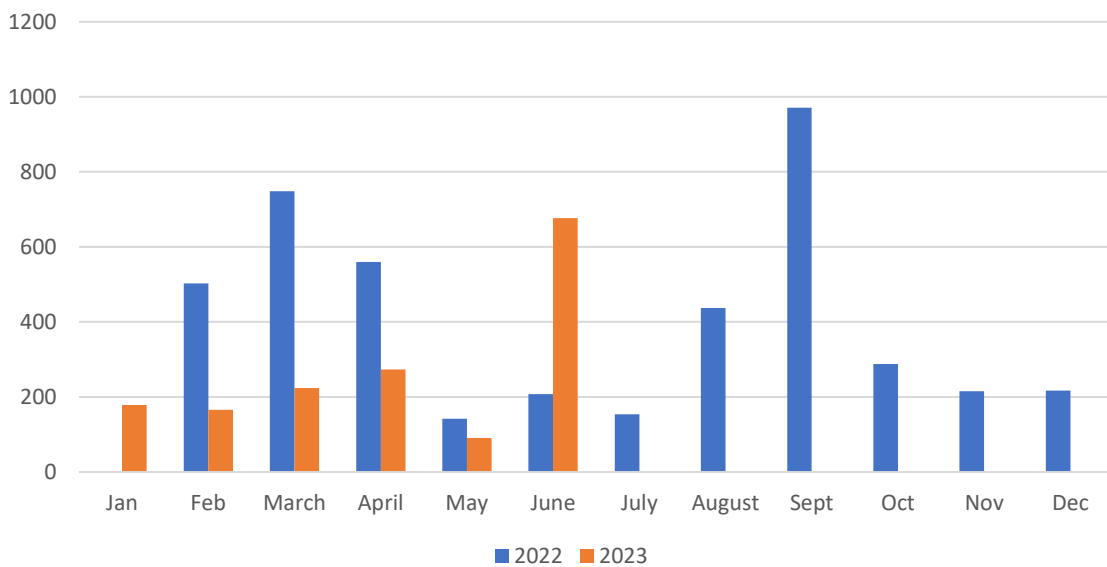
## Education and Outreach

### Education Programs

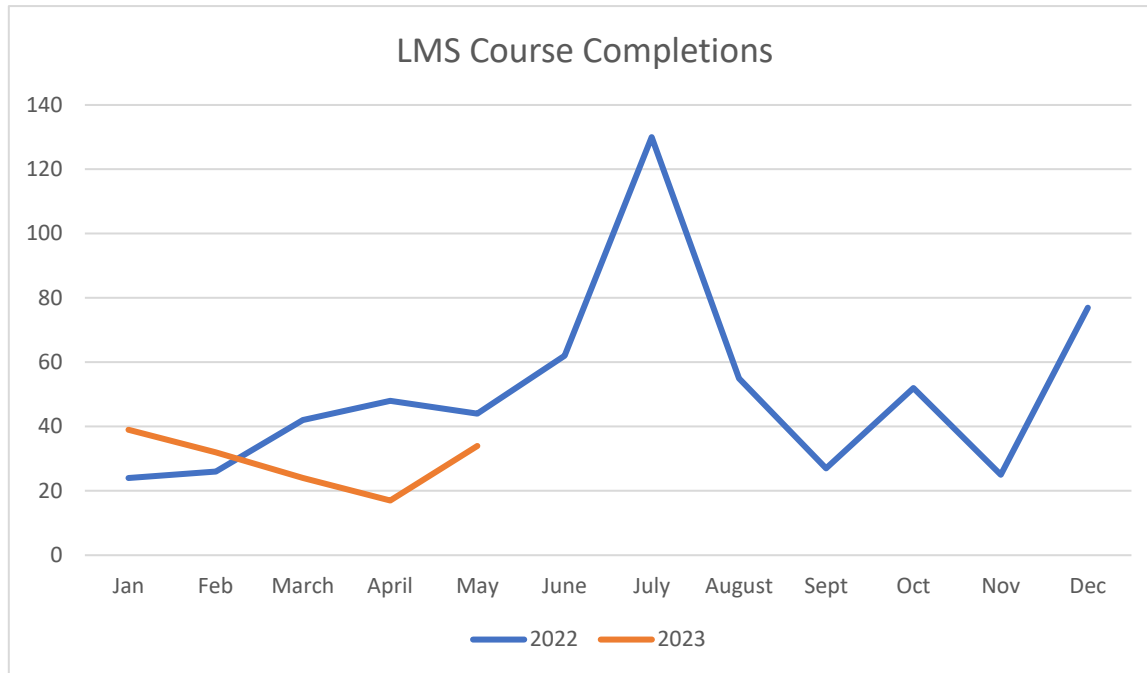
Number of Education Events



Number of Attendees at Education Events



**LMS**



**Joint Accreditation**

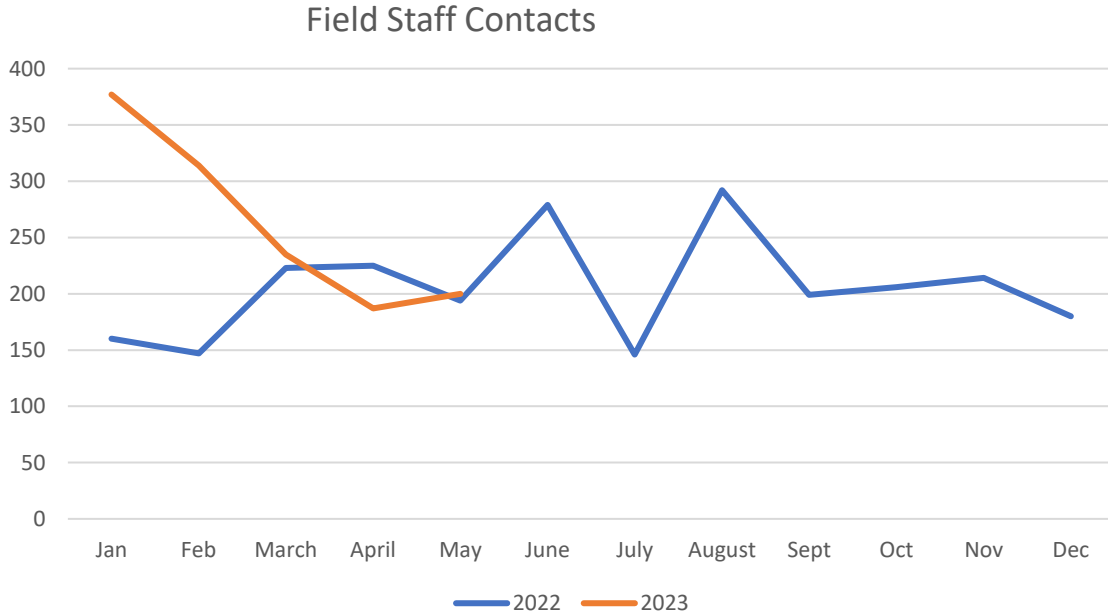
The educational committee continues to meet on a quarterly basis to review upcoming education and past evaluations. The next meeting will be held on August 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Upcoming Scheduled Educational Offerings**

Upcoming Education Programs		
Date	Type	Title
July 13	Webinar	Antibiotic Stewardship Webinar Series: Antimicrobial Baseline Data
August 10	Webinar	Antibiotic Stewardship Webinar Series: Antibiotic Stewardship Plan
September 14	Webinar	Antibiotic Stewardship Webinar Series: Clinical Decision-Making
October 12	Webinar	Antibiotic Stewardship Webinar Series: Antimicrobial Usage Data
October 17, 19, 24, & 26	Webinar	PSO Basics Series

**OUTREACH**

**FACILITY CONTACT AND CONSULTATION**



**Facility Outreach**

**Acute Care**

Field staff continue to support acute care facilities by doing outreach with new Patient Safety Officers. Facilities may also be contacted regarding data trends or specific events for the purpose of ensuring the PSO has the information and tools they need. Facilities continue to reach out to field staff with questions about reporting or to receive support in relation to specific events. LVRs are being evaluated and tracked on a quarterly basis. Patient Safety Advisors have also been working with the Center of Excellence for Improving Diagnosis on the evaluation project as above.

**LTC**

Field staff continue to follow up with LTC facilities that have missing utilization data. New Infection Preventionists are offered orientation to MCARE and education about the role. The LTC Newsletter (The Lowdown) continues to be developed and distributed quarterly to all LTC facilities. The HAI LTC Workgroup continues to meet quarterly.

**HAI**

The next HAI Advisory Group meeting will be held in the fall.

## Engagement and Publications

### *Patient Safety*

The Engagement team completed the second Master Class Writing Workshop in May. This two-part workshop taught applicants how to transform a completed quality improvement project into a publishable manuscript. Six winning teams were selected to participate, and their manuscripts will appear in upcoming issues of *Patient Safety*.

*Patient Safety* recently migrated to a new backend platform, Scholastica. This new system provides advanced analytics, a modern interface, and a comprehensive peer review management system.

### Journal Statistics April 22–May 31

■ **8.8k**

total pageviews

■ **4.8k**

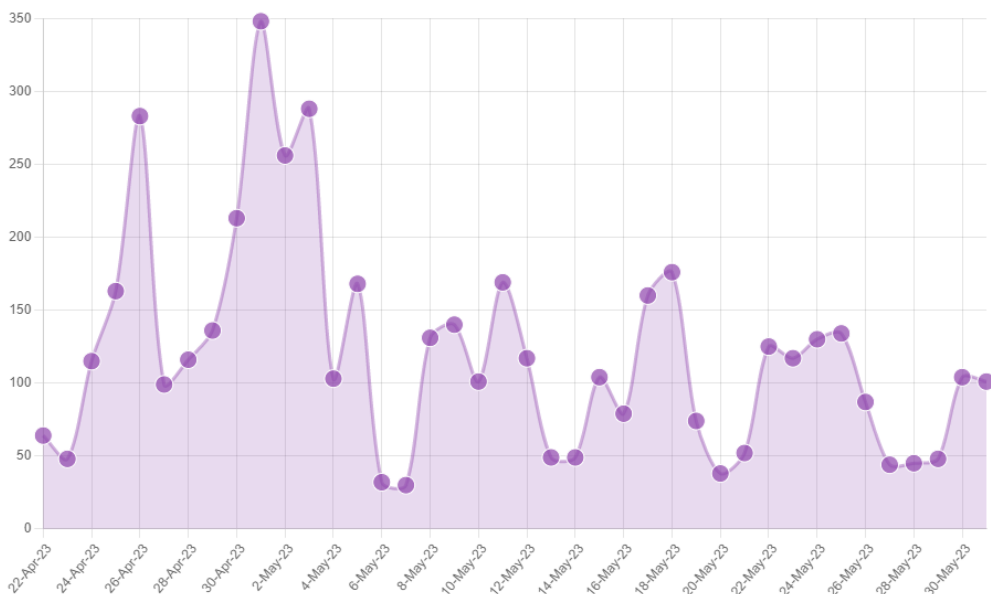
total article pageviews

■ **462**

article downloads

■ **4.4k**

unique visitors



## The Authority in the News

### April 1 – May 31, 2023

April 2 · Citation in “Urinary tract infection in an older patient: a case study and review” · Practice Nursing ·

<https://www.practicenursing.com/content/clinical/urinary-tract-infection-in-an-older-patient-a-case-study-and-review>

April 5 · DEFICIENT INDOOR AIR QUALITY: A SERIOUS THREAT TO HOSPITALS ·

RenewAire · [https://www.renewaire.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/MAR\\_0423\\_LIT168\\_WhitePaper\\_Hospitals\\_Web.pdf](https://www.renewaire.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/MAR_0423_LIT168_WhitePaper_Hospitals_Web.pdf)

April 10 · 全球预防跌倒16种策略, 你知道几种 [16 global fall prevention strategies, how many do you know?] · Sohu.com (Chinese) · [https://www.sohu.com/a/665432274\\_121123710](https://www.sohu.com/a/665432274_121123710)

April 16 · Here's how and why Lancaster County hospitals are inspected · Lancaster Online · [https://lancasteronline.com/business/local\\_business/here-s-how-and-why-lancaster-county-hospitals-are-inspected/article\\_dfcdb418-db06-11ed-b43e-3b1e398263db.html](https://lancasteronline.com/business/local_business/here-s-how-and-why-lancaster-county-hospitals-are-inspected/article_dfcdb418-db06-11ed-b43e-3b1e398263db.html)

April 18 · View from the top: An interview with Patient Safety Authority Chair, Dr. Nirmal Joshi (31 March 2023) · Patient Safety Learning – The Hub · <https://www.pslhub.org/learn/culture/view-from-the-top-an-interview-with-patient-safety-authority-chair-dr-nirmal-joshi-31-march-2023-r9425/>

April 25 · How to Prevent Retained Surgical Items · Steris Healthcare · <https://www.steris.com/healthcare/knowledge-center/surgical-equipment/how-to-prevent-retained-surgical-items>

April 28 · STATISTICS & DATA – MEDICAL MALPRACTICE IN PHILADELPHIA & THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA · Philadelphia Medical Malpractice Lawyer · <https://medicalmalpracticelawyerinphiladelphia.com/areas-served/society-hill/>

April 29 · Citation in “Obstetric clinical pharmacy: A necessary birth of a new specialty” · AJHP · <https://academic.oup.com/ajhp/advance-article-abstract/doi/10.1093/ajhp/zxad092/7147008?redirectedFrom=fulltext>

May 2 · Event: IMPROVING PATIENT SAFETY THROUGH REPORTING AND INVESTIGATION (PATIENT SAFETY) · PCOM · <https://www.pcom.edu/news/events/pdfs/pcom-family-medicine-hershey-weekend-cme-june-2023.pdf>

May 3 · Pennsylvania Medical Malpractice Statistics · Lawsuit Information Center · <https://www.lawsuit-information-center.com/pennsylvania-malpractice-statistics-value-case.html>

May 3 · Event: Prevention, Early Detection, and Treatment of Sepsis · ECRI · <https://www.ecri.org/events/early-detection-and-treatment-of-sepsis>

May 9 · Citation in “Researching nurses’ use of digital technology during the COVID-19 pandemic” · NursingStandard · <https://journals.rcni.com/nursing-standard/evidence-and-practice/researching-nurses-use-of-digital-technology-during-the-covid19-pandemic-ns.2023.e12013/abs>

May 11 · Hershey Medical Center clinicians Rex, Zurca recognized by Patient Safety Authority · Penn State Health News ·

<https://pennstatehealthnews.org/topics/hershey-medical-center-clinicians-rex-zurca-recognized-by-patient-safety-authority/>

May 24 · Event: How To: Hands-On Testing of Medical Devices · ECRI ·

<https://www.ecri.org/events/how-to-hands-on-testing-of-medical-devices>

May 25 · Spike in baby injuries and deaths in Pa. hospitals alarms patient safety agency ·

<https://www.pennlive.com/health/2023/05/spike-in-baby-injuries-and-deaths-in-pa-hospitals-alarms-patient-safety-agency.html>

May 25 · Pennsylvania had 169 newborn injuries and deaths last year · Becker's Healthcare ·

<https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/patient-safety-outcomes/pennsylvania-had-169-newborn-injuries-and-deaths-last-year.html>

May 26 · The Most Common Types of Surgical Errors in Reading, PA · PA Medical Malpractice Lawyers P.C. ·

<https://malpractice-injury-lawyers.com/surgical-error-types/>

May 29 · In Memory Of Those Who "Died Suddenly" In The United States, May 22-May 29, 2023 · USSA News ·

<https://ussanews.com/2023/05/31/in-memory-of-those-who-died-suddenly-in-the-united-states-may-22-may-29-2023/>

## **Social Media**

April 23 · <https://twitter.com/MedProProtector/status/1650182902955606016>

April 25 · <https://twitter.com/KarenLavelle2/status/1650983724698288131>

April 28 · <https://twitter.com/ptsafetylearn/status/1651943095552843776>

April 30 · <https://twitter.com/ptsafetylearn/status/1652666613076828161>

May 2 · [https://twitter.com/Health\\_465/status/1653417529849839617](https://twitter.com/Health_465/status/1653417529849839617)

May 2 · <https://twitter.com/ptsafetylearn/status/1653434422157361153>

May 2 · <https://twitter.com/ptsafetylearn/status/1653327216095232000>

May 4 · <https://twitter.com/missingsnowman/status/1654209243904454657>

May 2 ·

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:ugcPost:7059183154791665664/>



May 12 · <https://twitter.com/PaAction/status/1657040219705692161>

May 15 · <https://twitter.com/scholasticahq/status/1658087357185155072>

May 24 · <https://twitter.com/PaAction/status/1661441204200898576>

May 25 · <https://twitter.com/lehighvalley/status/1661741673800675329>

May 25 · <https://twitter.com/PatriotNews/status/1661684794550280193>

## Administration

### Anonymous Reports and Complaints April and May 2023

#### Anonymous Reports

No Anonymous Reports

#### Complaints

No Complaints

### Patient Safety Authority Budget and Patient Safety Trust Fund Balance Update

At its September 22, 2022 Board Meeting, the Board approved the Authority's FY22-23 budget totaling \$7,700,000, a \$200,000 increase over the FY21-22 budget.

The Authority's FY21-22 expenditures completed totaling \$6,933,016, with \$4,646,046 in Personnel and \$2,286,970 in Operations. The Authority ended FY21-22 with a budget surplus of \$566,984.

On June 7, 2023, the Treasury invested cash balance in the Patient Safety Trust Fund (PSTF) was \$12,372,920.91. This balance includes \$5,430,805.40 in FY22-23 MCARE Assessment transfers and includes a remaining balance of \$6,900,410.80 from FY21-22 MCARE transfers. Approximately \$2,269,194.60 in additional FY22-23 MCARE surcharge transfers are expected to reach the Board's authorized Assessment total of \$7,700,000.00. The Executive Director believes the current PSTF balance is adequate to provide for the Authority's cash activities through the remainder of FY22-23 and FY23-24. FY21-22 MCARE Assessment transfers totaling \$7,540,451.91 were completed on November 28, 2022.

The Board authorized \$7.7 million in FY22-23 MCARE Assessments at its December 8, 2022 Board Meeting.

As of June 7, 2023, the Authority's FY22-23 cash expenditures totaled \$6,446,628.58. These expenditures include MHRI invoices through April 2023 and Gainwell invoices through May 2023. We forecast about \$700,000 in additional expenditures through the remainder of FY22-23 (2.5 pay periods, remaining vendor invoices, and other operating exp) bringing the FY22-23 expenditure forecast to about \$7.2 million.

Through June 7, 2023 of FY22-23, the Patient Safety Trust Fund has thus far received \$339,170.58 in PA Treasury investment income. For comparison, FY21-22 investment income totaled \$11,630 from the same investment pool.

### ***FY22-23 MCARE Assessment Authorizations and Department Surcharges***

At its December 8, 2022 meeting, the Board authorized MCARE Assessments for FY22-23 totaling \$7,700,000, \$6,530,000 for Acute Care facilities and \$1,170,000 for Nursing Homes. The Board increased the FY22-23 Acute Care Assessment by \$170,000, 2.67%, and increased the FY22-23 Nursing Home Assessment by \$30,000, 2.63%. Following that Board Meeting, the authorized Assessment amounts were communicated to the Department which then calculated acute care and nursing home FY22-23 surcharge rates based on the Department's December 31, 2022 census of MCARE units (Act 13 Acute Care) and bed counts (Act 52 Nursing Home). The Department then prepared MCARE surcharge letters and invoices to facilities with a payment due date of June 1, 2022. Notices were posted in the PA Bulletin. The Department began transferring the FY22-23 MCARE surcharge receipts to the Patient Safety Trust Fund on February 20, 2023.

The Department's **Division of Acute and Ambulatory Care (DAAC)** provided the following CYE22 (December 31, 2022) Acute Care facility census totals:

**CYE22 549 AC facilities, 41,709 AC units**

CYE21 553 AC facilities, 42,191 AC units

#### **CYE22 DAAC census by facility type:**

Hospitals	214 facilities	40,545 beds (AC units)
Ambulatory Surgical Centers	320 facilities	1,120 op/proc rms (AC units)
Abortion Facilities	10 facilities	23 op/proc rms (AC units)
Birthing Facilities	5 facilities	12 op/proc rms (AC units)

The Department's **Division of Nursing Care Facilities (DNCF)** provided the following CYE22 (December 31, 2022) NH census totals:

<b>CYE22 DNCF</b>	<b>671 facilities</b>	<b>84,667 beds</b>
CYE21 DNCF	681 facilities	85,944 beds

***FY22-23 Maximum Allowable Assessments (MMA)***

Pursuant to the MCARE Act of 2002, as amended, Sections 305(d) and 409(b), assessment maximums are to be increased in each succeeding fiscal year according to the Consumer Price Index (CPI). At its December 13, 2018 meeting, the Board authorized utilization of the Northeast Medical Care Services (NE Med Care) CPI to calculate changes in annual MCARE Maximum Allowable Assessments (MAA) beginning in FY18-19. From FY15-16 through FY17-18, the Northeast Medical Professional Services (NE Med Prof) CPI was used for the MAA calculation. Prior to FY15-16, the Northeast Regional (NE Urban) CPI was utilized in this calculation.

For FY22-23, the Maximum Allowable Assessments (MAA) increased by 5.42% to total MAA of \$10,044,360, with a \$8,648,159 MAA for Act 13 AC facilities, and a \$1,396,201MAA for Act 52 NH facilities.

***Hospital, ASF, Birthing Center, and Abortion Facility – Act 13 Acute Care Assessments***

*FY22-23 Acute Care Assessments* – Through June 6, 2023, the Department has transferred \$4,591,435.12 (70.31%) in Acute Care Assessments to the Patient Safety Trust Fund, with a balance of \$1,938,564.88 remaining due.

***Act 52 Nursing Home Assessments***

*FY22-23 Nursing Home Assessments* - Through June 7, 2023, the Department has transferred \$839,370.28 (71.74%) in Nursing Home Assessments to the Patient Safety Trust Fund, with a balance of \$330,629.72 remaining due.

***Vendor Contracts***

***Medstar Health Research Institute (MHRI)***

The MHRI contract was fully executed on June 18, 2019, and commenced on July 1, 2019, running for 5 years (including 2 option years) through June 30, 2024. The total 5-year MHRI contract value was set at \$3,419,185.

MHRI submitted FY19-20 invoices from July 2019 through June 2020 totaling \$571,359. MHRI ended FY19-20 (PY1) with a budget surplus of \$86,770, 13.2%.

A Change Order (CO) was agreed upon between the Authority and MHRI, effective July 1, 2020, reducing the remaining contract value (PY2-5) by \$224,105, and

reducing the FY20-21 (PY2) budget by a net change of \$41,129. The MHRI FY20-21 (PY2) budget under the CO was \$617,000, averaging \$51,417/mo.

MHRI submitted invoices in FY20-21 (PY2) from July 2020 through June 2021 totaling \$458,559 and completed PY2 \$158,441 under the CO budget, resulting in a 24-month budget surplus of \$245,211.

At its September 2021 meeting, the Board approved the exercise of the MHRI 2-year option extension for FY22-23 (PY4) and FY23-24 (PY5). MHRI was notified of this extension in writing by the Executive Director.

A second MHRI Change Order (CO2) was entered on September 27, 2021 establishing standard job categories and role descriptions with consistent hourly rates for MHRI staff performing work in accordance with the contract. Hourly rates will remain the same for the Principal Investigator and Sr. Physician positions through the end of the contract. Hourly rates will increase by 3% on July 1 each year through the end of the contract for all other job categories. The annual total budget amounts agreed to in the first Change Order dated July 1, 2020 remain unchanged.

MHRI submitted invoices in FY21-22 (PY3) from July 2021 through June 2022 totaling \$609,434 and completed PY3 \$18,906 under budget, resulting in a 36-month budget surplus of \$264,116.

MHRI has submitted invoices in FY22-23 (PY4) from July 2022 through April 2023 totaling \$376,356, and is currently \$156,898 under budget for PY4, resulting in a 46-month budget surplus of \$384,851. 14-monthly MHRI invoices should remain on the 60-month contract.

### ***Gainwell Technologies LLC, previously DXC MS LLC (Gainwell)***

The DXC/Gainwell contract was fully executed on June 18, 2019, and commenced on July 1, 2019, running for 5 years (the final 2 being option years) through June 30, 2024. The total 5-year DXC/Gainwell contract value is \$7,071,540.

At its September 2021 meeting, the Board approved the exercise of the Gainwell 2-year option extension covering FY22-23 (PY4) and FY23-24 (PY5). Gainwell was notified of this extension in writing by the Executive Director.

On March 27, 2023, Gainwell and the Executive Director executed a Change Order adding an additional full-time Software Engineer and a half-time Business Analyst to the Gainwell Team while eliminating a Project Manager position, effective April 1, 2023. As a result of the hourly rate differentials for these positions, there was no budget impact.

Through the May 2023 Gainwell invoice, PSA has approved invoices from DXC/Gainwell totaling \$4,856,966 covering the first 46-months activity, resulting in a current contract budget surplus of \$476,619. 13-monthly Gainwell invoices should remain on the 60-month contract.

On July 1, 2020, DXC Technology Service LLC's State and Local Healthcare and Human Services (S&L HHS) division was spun-off and named DXC MS LLC. This occurred in anticipation of the sale of DXC MS LLC to Veritas Capital, a NY-based private equity firm. The Executive Director's approval of the assignment of PSA's DXC Technology Services LLC contract to DXC MS LLC was given after several meetings with representatives from DXC Technology, DXC MS, and Veritas Capital. The Authority, under Mr. Akers counsel, received assurances that the DXC contract commitments will continue under DXC MS LLC and Veritas Capital, and that the Authority's DXC staff will remain in place.

On October 1, 2020, DXC MS LLC became a wholly owned subsidiary of the newly formed Gainwell Technologies, a holding of Veritas Capital. DXC is now referred to as Gainwell.