

2026 Ambulatory Health Care National Patient Safety Goals

(Easy-To-Read)

Identify patients correctly

NPSG.01.01.01 Use at least two ways to identify patients. For example, use the patient's name and date of birth. This is done to make sure that each patient gets the correct medicine and treatment.

Use medicines safely

NPSG.03.04.01 Before a procedure, label medicines that are not labeled. For example, medicines in syringes, cups and basins. Do this in the area where medicines and supplies are set up.

NPSG.03.05.01 Take extra care with patients who take medicines to thin their blood.

NPSG.03.06.01 Record and pass along correct information about a patient's medicines. Find out what medicines the patient is taking. Compare those medicines to new medicines given to the patient. Give the patient written information about the medicines they need to take. Tell the patient it is important to bring their up-to-date list of medicines every time they visit a doctor.

Prevent infection

NPSG.07.01.01 Use the hand cleaning guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the World Health Organization. Set goals for improving hand cleaning.

Improve health outcomes for all

NPSG.16.01.01 Improving health outcomes for all is a quality and patient safety priority. For example, health care disparities in the patient population are identified and a written plan describes ways to improve health outcomes for all.

Prevent mistakes in surgery

UP01.01.01 Make sure that the correct surgery is done on the correct patient and at the correct place on the patient's body.

UP01.02.01 Mark the correct place on the patient's body where the surgery is to be done.

UP01.03.01 Pause before the surgery to make sure that a mistake is not being made.