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Quality improvement and patient safety: Reality and Responsibility from Codman to Today

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#### **EDUCATIONAL ARTICLE**

#### Quality improvement and patient safety

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Summary Quality improvement and patient safety (QIPS) has become increasingly important in the practice of medicine, particularly since the Institute of Medicine's report, "To Err is Human." Despite surgery having been initially at the forefront in instituting QIPS, there has been a lag in promoting its importance until recently. A short history of QIPS is presented along with an introduction to the SQUIRE guidelines used for standardizing QIPS publications. As surgeons we are becoming even more accountable in promoting value in health care. As such, knowledge of QIPS will become an increasingly important component of our future practices and publications.

#### **KEYWORDS**

Quality;

Safety;

Pediatric surgery

#### Introduction

Health care is an ever-changing endeavor. Most of us were brought up in an era of volume-based healthcare delivery. We have entered a new era of value (V)-based care, in which our profession will be evaluated based on performance, that is on quality and cost (V=Q/\$) [1]. Such a new-age approach will likely reimburse or reward providers based

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