ILLINOIS FOUNDATION FOR QUALITY HEALTH CARE
The Medicare Quality Improvement Organization for Illinois

Creating Safer Healthcare in Chicago
Chicago Patient Safety Forum

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The Chicago Patient Safety Forum and the Illinois Foundation for Quality Health Care Partner to Save 100,000 Lives

Regional meetings to be held for participating hospitals throughout the state

Oak Brook, Ill. Feb. 9, 2006 - The Illinois Foundation for Quality Health Care (IFQHC) has joined the Chicago Patient Safety Forum (CPSF) in promoting the Institute for Healthcare Improvement's (IHI) 100,000 Lives Campaign, a national initiative to engage U.S. hospitals in a commitment to improve patient care and prevent avoidable deaths. The campaign is the first national effort designed to save a specified number of lives by a certain date (June 14, 2006), and every year thereafter.

CPSF is leading the campaign in the greater Chicago area, which includes participation from 83 Illinois hospitals**,** IFQHC, the Metropolitan Chicago Healthcare Council, and the Emergency Nurses Association. As part of its leadership role, CPSF aims to recruit additional hospitals and associations across metropolitan Chicago.

A series of regional meetings will be held for Illinois providers participating in the 100,000 Lives Campaign to network and exchange best practices with one another. Prior to the meetings, each participant is asked to submit their successful interventions related to the campaign. The meetings will be held on:

- Feb. 24 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Rush Copley Medical Center in Aurora
- March 10 from 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago
- March 10 from 1- 4:30 p.m. at St. Alexius Medical Center in Hoffman Estates
- March 23 from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at Mt. Vernon Hospital in Mt. Vernon

- more -

Nationally, campaign participants include over 2,800 acute care hospitals in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. All participants have agreed to implement one of the following six proven strategies to prevent avoidable deaths: deploy rapid response teams; deliver reliable acute myocardial infarction; prevent adverse drug events; prevent central line infections; prevent surgical site infections; and prevent ventilator associated pneumonia.

CPSF, a multidisciplinary organization dedicated to reducing preventable medical errors in the Chicago area and throughout the state, strongly supports this campaign as an important step in facilitating system-based approaches to improving patient care.

"The rapid and wide dissemination of lessons learned and best practices is essential to the success of this effort," said Leonard Lamkin, executive director of The Chicago Patient Safety Forum. "The campaign will lay the groundwork for improved patient care and quality is a way to minimize any future adverse occurrences."

IFQHC is the Medicare-contracted Quality Improvement Organization for the state responsible for protecting and improving the quality of health care provided in Illinois.

Providers planning to attend any of the regional meetings should RSVP to Amy Panagopoulos at IFQHC. She can be reached at 630-928-5807 or apanagopoulos@ilqio.sdps.org.

For additional information on the 100,000 Lives Campaign or to view a list of participating Illinois hospitals visit www.ihi.org. For more information on the Chicago campaign, please contact the Chicago Patient Safety Forum at 312-431-9110 or the Illinois Foundation for Quality Health Care at 800-386-6431.

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