Coalition for Quality & Patient Safety
of Chicagoland

Contact: Martin Hatlie, CEO
Coalition for Quality and Patient Safety of Chicagoland
Phone: 312-906-6196; Email: mhatlie_cqps@iomc.org
www.cqps.org

Monica Berry Joins Coalition for Quality and Patient Safety of Chicagoland as Chief Operating Officer

CHICAGO (July 17) – The Coalition for Quality and Patient Safety of Chicagoland (CQPS), announced today that Monica C. Berry, BSN, JD has accepted the position of Chief Operating Officer. Berry joins a CQPS team focused on advancing safe, high quality care that includes a federally-certified Patient Safety Organization (PSO), one of the first in the nation.

"We are so happy to have Monica on board at CQPS," said Martin J. Hatlie, CEO. "Her hospital management and operations experience will bring a depth to the team that will serve the coalition and its consumers and provider constituents extremely well."

"Monica completes our senior management team beautifully," said Carrie E. Nelson, MD, chair of the CQPS Transition team. "We are confident that the combination of skills and experience that she and Marty Hatlie bring to the table will translate into a bright future for CQPS and real progress on patient safety and quality of care in the Chicago region."

Berry has a distinguished record in the healthcare patient safety and risk management field, including positions as Director of Risk Management for the Illinois Hospital Association, Vice President of Risk Management & Loss Control for the Rockford Health System, Regional Director Risk Management for SSM Health Care of Wisconsin and, most recently, Director for Patient Safety and Risk Management at Chicago-based Loyola University and Medical Center. She also has held positions in the liability insurance sector with two of the early patient safety innovators among insurers, MMI Companies, Inc. and St. Paul Healthcare.

Berry served on the Board of Directors of the American Society for Healthcare Risk Management (ASHRM) from 1998 to 2001, including a term as President in 2002. She has been a leader in the transformation in perspective that ASHRM underwent in that era, from focus on managing litigation risk to dedication to preventing patient injury. Berry is a Certified Professional in Healthcare Risk Management (CPHRM) and a Distinguished Fellow in the American Society for Healthcare Risk Management (DFASHRM). In addition to a Bachelor of Science in nursing and law degrees, Berry holds a Master's degree in Health Law (LL.M), all from Loyola University.

The CQPS mission is to mobilize the diverse healthcare stakeholders in metropolitan Chicago to provide the best possible care to every patient every time by eliminating preventable harm and implementing systemic change to ensure consistent excellence**.** CQPS was launched earlier this year as the successor organization to the Chicago Patient Safety Forum. It debuted its plan to develop a PSO at a Summit event on June 3rd attended by 300 patients and patient safety leaders.

Among other responsibilities, Berry will focus on assisting Chicagoland healthcare providers to ramp up and participate in the CQPS PSO. Enabled by the federal Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2005, PSOs are now being certified by the federal Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality under federal regulations finalized late last year. The CQPS PSO, one of the first in the nation to be certified, will provide Chicago area hospitals with a systemic pathway for sharing reports and investigations of incidents that harmed or could have harmed patients. A PSO has the potential to foster huge leaps in safety by aggregating large numbers of reports, analyzing them for common causes or risk factors, feeding back solutions to hospitals and other healthcare organizations that participate as well as promulgating best practices in building safety nets around our community of patients.

CQPS is a program of the Institute of Medicine of Chicago (IOMC) in partnership with the Metropolitan Chicago Healthcare Council (MCHC), where the coalition is housed. CQPS appointed Martin J. Hatlie, JD as its first chief executive officer in March.

"I am excited to be working with the dedicated people who have come together to develop CQPS and its PSO," Berry said. "We have a great opportunity to improve healthcare for patients throughout Chicagoland, and I'm happy to contribute to that crucially important mission."

###

Coalition for Quality and Patient Safety of Chicagoland
222 S. Riverside Plaza, Suite 1900
Chicago, IL 60606
www.cqps.org