



News Item

2013 John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Award Recipients Announced

Awards to be presented at the 2014 NQF Annual Conference and Membership Meeting

January 27, 2014

By: [Elizabeth Eaken Zhani](#), Media Relations Manager

View the [multi-media news release](#)

(OAKBROOK TERRACE, Ill. – January 27, 2014) The Joint Commission and the [National Quality Forum \(NQF\)](#) announce the 2013 recipients of the annual John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Awards. The four awards will be presented on February 13, 2014 during a luncheon at the 2014 NQF Annual Conference and Membership Meeting in Washington, DC.

The 2013 winners represent numerous achievements in the field of patient safety and quality, including: prevention of more than 5,400 readmissions; system-wide engagement to reduce medical errors; an adverse patient-safety event that catalyzed an important and successful quality transformation; and an individuals' lifetime achievement in the field of patient safety and quality.

The [patient safety awards program](#), launched in 2002 by NQF and The Joint Commission, honors John M. Eisenberg, M.D., M.B.A., former administrator of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). Dr. Eisenberg was also a member of the founding Board of Directors of NQF. In his roles both as AHRQ administrator and chair of the federal government's Quality Interagency Coordination Task Force, he was a passionate advocate for patient safety and health care quality and personally led AHRQ's grant program to support patient safety research.

The four honorees for national, local-level, and individual recognition are:

Innovation in Patient Safety and Quality at the National Level – Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement, Bloomington, MN; Minnesota Hospital Association, St. Paul, MN; and Stratis Health, Bloomington, MN

The Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement, Minnesota Hospital Association, and Stratis Health are recognized for their Reducing Avoidable Readmissions Effectively (RARE) Campaign. The RARE Campaign is a large-scale healthcare change initiative that is engaging hospitals and care providers in Minnesota across the continuum of care to prevent 6,000 avoidable readmissions, help people sleep in their own beds instead of the hospital, and save millions of dollars in healthcare expenses. The 82 hospitals participating in the RARE campaign account for more than 85 percent of the annual statewide hospital readmissions and to date have prevented 5,441 readmissions over a two-year period.

Participating hospitals receive intensive support including technical assistance and best practice tools to aid in redesigning their care processes to achieve readmission reduction goals.

Innovation in Patient Safety and Quality at the National Level - Anthem Blue Cross, Woodland

Hills, CA; National Health Foundation, Los Angeles, CA; Hospital Association of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA; Hospital Association of San Diego & Imperial Counties, San Diego, CA; and the Hospital Council of Northern & Central California, Sacramento, CA

Anthem Blue Cross, the National Health Foundation, the Hospital Association of Southern California, the Hospital Association of San Diego & Imperial Counties, and the Hospital Council of Northern & Central California are recognized for their initiative "Patient Safety First...a California Partnership for Health." Launched in 2010, the initiative united key stakeholders from different geographic regions within the state to improve quality of care provided to Californians, save lives by targeting zero avoidable medical errors, and reduce healthcare costs to allow for reinvestment into the system. Anthem Blue Cross contributed \$6 million over three years to support this initiative, collaborating with three regional hospital associations representing 95 percent of all California hospitals and the National Health Foundation. The goals of the initiative included driving improvement in perinatal care, sepsis, and hospital acquired infections. The initiative leveraged peer-to-peer regional learning networks to accelerate adoption of best practices and strategies for improvement. Phase one results showed that 182 hospitals were engaged, and more than 3,500 lives and \$63 million have been saved. Building upon phase one successes, Anthem Blue Cross invested another \$1.8 million to roll out phase two of the collaborative in 2013.

Innovation in Patient Safety and Quality at the Local Level - Vidant Health, Greenville, NC

Vidant Health is recognized for their system-wide quality transformation focused on patient safety training following a serious blood event that resulted in a patient death in 2006. In response to this incident, Vidant Health outlined a series of interventions to improve patient safety that included board literacy in quality, an aggressive transparency policy, patient-family partnerships, and leader and physician engagement. Implementation of specific tactics associated with each approach occurred in the ensuing years. The transformation of the system has resulted in: an 83% reduction in serious safety events, 62% reduction in hospital acquired infections, 98% optimal care in the CMS "core measures," HCAHPS performance in the top 20%, and more than 150 patient advisors partnering with leaders, physicians, and front line staff in safety and quality work. From the bedside to the board room the improvement in quality is evident across Vidant Health's nine hospitals, 70 physician practices, and ambulatory surgery and home health/hospice services.

Individual Achievement - Gail L. Warden, President Emeritus of Henry Ford Health System, Detroit, MI

Mr. Warden is recognized for his continued work to improve and assure the well-being of hospitalized patients. As President and CEO, he oversaw the creation of the Henry Ford Health System, now the second largest health system in Michigan and an institution nationally known for its quality patient care, bench-to-bedside research and outstanding education program. Among his many notable accomplishments, he served on an Institute of Medicine committee that issued two groundbreaking reports that prompted healthcare organizations nationwide to identify and fix medical errors to minimize patient risk, and strive to achieve "perfect" health care. He has been named as one of the top 25 most influential individuals in the industry over the past 25 years and also as one of the 100 Most Powerful People in Healthcare by Modern Healthcare in 2001 and 2002, respectively. Through this work, and his vision of what would be needed to build systems capable of delivering safer care, he has helped to broadly enhance and raise the quality of patient care through outside affiliations and public service.

"The achievements of this year's Eisenberg Award recipients are exemplary," says Mark R. Chassin, MD, FACP, MPP, MPH, president and CEO, The Joint Commission. "Their tireless dedication to making their organizations and the healthcare industry safer for patients, saving lives, and decreasing costs deserves to be applauded."

"We congratulate this year's Eisenberg Award recipients for the tremendous strides they have taken toward improving the patient experience by making care safer," said Christine Cassel, MD, president and

CEO of NQF. “Our winners exemplify the nation's quality movement and underscore the vital importance of our work at the National Quality Forum to foster the best thinking to improve healthcare quality and patient safety through measurement.”

The awards will be presented at NQF's 2014 Annual Conference on February 13-14, 2014, at the Washington Marriott Wardman Park hotel. Titled “Making Sense of Quality Data for Patients, Providers, and Payers,” conference sessions will address the importance of quality measures for improving our healthcare systems, ways to make healthcare quality information meaningful to patients and consumers, and how to empower patients and consumers to make better decisions about their care. The NQF annual conference brings together more than 400 healthcare professionals, quality experts, and member organization executives and staff from across the United States, all of whom are dedicated to driving quality improvement within our healthcare system. A detailed agenda and additional information about the event, including registration, is available [online](#) and at www.qualityforum.org.

The May 2014 issue of “[The Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety](#)” also will feature the achievements of each of the award recipients.

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News Item

2012 John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Award Recipients Announced

Awards to be presented at the 2013 NQF Annual Conference and Membership Meeting

February 6, 2013

By: **Elizabeth Eaken Zhani**, Media Relations Manager

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View the [multi-media news release](#)

Oakbrook Terrace, Ill. (February 6, 2013) — [The National Quality Forum](#) (NQF) and [The Joint Commission](#) today announced the 2012 recipients of the annual John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Awards. The awards will be presented on March 8, 2013 during a luncheon at the 2013 NQF Annual Conference and Membership Meeting in Washington, DC.

The [patient safety awards program](#), launched in 2002 by NQF and The Joint Commission, honors John M. Eisenberg, M.D., M.B.A., former administrator of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). Dr. Eisenberg was also a member of the founding Board of Directors of NQF. In his roles both as AHRQ administrator and chair of the federal government's Quality Interagency Coordination Task Force, he was a passionate advocate for patient safety and health care quality and personally led AHRQ's grant program to support patient safety research.

The honorees, selected in two award categories, are:

Individual Achievement

Saul N. Weingart, M.D., Ph.D., Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, Massachusetts

Dr. Weingart is recognized for his longstanding commitment and national contributions to patient safety through publication, education, research and leadership. Examples of his many accomplishments include creation of the Harvard Executive Sessions on Medical Error, one of which led to passage of the Minnesota Adverse Event Reporting Law of 2003; extensive research in understanding the role that patients and families can play in advancing patient safety; leading multiple operational improvement projects including implementation of medication best practices across a six hospital network; development of one of the earliest medication reconciliation programs; development of a web portal-based incident reporting system for patients; and development of novel curricula in patient safety and online patient safety courses.

Innovation in Patient Safety and Quality at the National Level – two recipients

- **Kaiser Permanente, Oakland, California**

Kaiser Permanente Implant Registries Benefit Patient Safety, Quality Improvement, Cost Effectiveness

Kaiser Permanente is recognized for the pioneering innovations of their implant registries, which have shown unsurpassed and proven benefits for patient safety, quality, outcomes, and cost effectiveness in their integrated healthcare system.

The registries have successfully leveraged administrative databases, electronic health records and vast experience in patient care to create robust national orthopedic, cardiology and vascular registries that provide current and clinically relevant information about post-market medical device surveillance and surgical outcomes.

The fundamental objectives of these registries are: to improve the quality of care provided to health plan members through the use of integrated data systems and advanced statistical analyses to monitor patient outcomes; to evaluate new and established medical device technologies; and to identify and facilitate implementation of clinical best practices. These registries are models of seamless integration across medical centers in nine states and represent unprecedented partnerships among health plan administrators, hospitals and physician medical groups.

- **Memorial Hermann Healthcare System, Houston, Texas**

High Reliability Journey from Board to Bedside

Memorial Hermann Healthcare System is recognized for their High Reliability Journey from Board to Bedside initiative. This initiative focuses on providing compassionate, operationally and financially efficient care by concentrating leadership and employee attention on high-reliability behaviors, evidence-based care and harm prevention across 12 hospitals, 19 ambulatory surgery centers, clinics and other ambulatory care locations. Memorial Hermann's approach focuses on an aligned accountability structure, robust process improvement, and continuous reinforcement of the cultural transformation. To accomplish this, a high-level outcome focus is established by leadership (i.e., the Board and senior management) and then cascading management systems and reporting processes ensure that those closest to the patient's bedside design and implement the performance improvement process. Process measures and outcomes are tied to metric-based goals; the results are reported and compared to goals on a monthly basis. Goals are set at 100% for quality measure performance and 0% for preventable harm incidents. Successes in preventing

harm are celebrated through presentation of the Memorial Hermann High Reliability Certified Zero Award which recognizes an organization who has not had any occurrences of hospital acquired infections, hospital acquired conditions, or serious safety events for one year. Since 2011, 78 Memorial Hermann High Reliability Certified Zero awards have been presented.

No award will be presented in the Innovation in Patient Safety and Quality at the Local Level category for 2012.

"I congratulate all three recipients for their commitment to safe and high quality health care," says Mark R. Chassin, M.D., FACP, M.P.P., M.P.H., president, The Joint Commission. "With organizations like Kaiser and Memorial Hermann and individuals such as Dr. Weingart leading the way we are slowly but surely seeing the transformation of the American health care system to one where more and more organizations are making dramatic progress toward the ultimate goal of zero patient harm."

"The Eisenberg Awards serve as an important reminder of what health care should strive to be at all times – safe, effective, and focused on providing patient-centered care," said Gerald Shea, interim president and CEO, NQF. "We congratulate this year's recipients for their continued contributions in the field and for the impact their successes will continue to have on raising the standard of care in our nation." 0

This year's NQF conference is focused on the theme, "The Next Decade of Performance Measurement: Meeting the Needs of a Rapidly Changing Healthcare System." Ten years ago, NQF endorsed its first voluntary, national consensus performance measure to answer the call for standardized measurement of health care services. This first measure was a stepping-stone for creating a consensus-driven effort that bridged nearly every interested party in health care. The ten-year result of this national experiment is a portfolio of over 700 NQF-endorsed measures – most of which are in use; a more information-rich health care system; and an enormous emerging body of knowledge about measure development, measure use, and quality improvement. The conference will focus on future needs, and how measurement is adapting to meet them. A detailed agenda and additional information about the event, including [online registration](#), is available at www.qualityforum.org.

The June 2013 issue of "The Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety" also will feature the achievements of each of the award recipients.

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News Item

2011 John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Award Recipients Announced

Awards to be presented at the 2012 NQF Annual Conference and Membership Meeting

March 13, 2012

By: [Elizabeth Eaken Zhani](#), Media Relations Manager



Oakbrook Terrace, Ill. (March 13, 2012) — The [National Quality Forum](#) (NQF) and The Joint Commission today announced the 2011 recipients of the annual John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Awards. The awards will be presented on April 5, 2012 during a luncheon at the 2012 NQF Annual Conference and Membership Meeting in Washington, DC.

The [patient safety awards program](#), launched in 2002 by NQF and The Joint Commission, honors John M. Eisenberg, M.D., M.B.A., former administrator of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). Dr. Eisenberg was one of the founding leaders of NQF and sat on its Board of Directors. In his roles both as AHRQ administrator and chair of the federal government's Quality Inter-Agency Coordination Task Force, he was a passionate advocate for patient safety and health care quality and personally led AHRQ's grant program to support patient safety research.

The honorees, selected in three award categories, are:

INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT

Kenneth I. Shine, M.D. - University of Texas

Dr. Shine is being recognized for his multiple leadership roles that have helped to improve quality and safety in health care nationwide. Over the course of his tenure as President of the Institute of Medicine, Dr. Shine established the Quality of Care in America Project which led to the landmark reports, "To Err is Human" and "Crossing the Quality Chasm," helping to put safety and quality on the national agenda. As the founding Director of the RAND Center for Domestic and International Health Security, he led the Center's efforts to make health a central component of U.S. foreign policy and guide the Center's evolving research agenda. In 2003, Dr. Shine joined the University of Texas Medical System as the Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs. In this role, Dr. Shine helped to place quality and safety at the forefront of care, enacting change on a system-wide scale. A cardiologist and physiologist, he received his M.D. from Harvard Medical School in 1961, and an A.B. in Biochemical Sciences from Harvard College in 1957.

INNOVATION IN PATIENT SAFETY AND QUALITY AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

The Society of Hospital Medicine, Philadelphia, PA

The Society of Hospital Medicine (SHM) is recognized for its Mentored Implementation model, designed to further frontline quality initiatives. By employing a mentor, typically a hospitalist-expert in quality improvement and other relevant content, hospital teams are provided with the guidance they need to implement best practices and improve quality more rapidly. In addition to sharing best practices, participants are able to better engage effective measurement of baseline status and progress to date, and foster leadership skills in the process. To date, SHM's mentors are in place in over 300 hospitals around the U.S. and Canada in three signature quality improvement initiatives focusing on care transitions, glycemic control, and venous thromboembolism prevention.

INNOVATION IN PATIENT SAFETY AND QUALITY AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

New York-Presbyterian Hospital, New York, NY

An innovative collaboration between the housestaff, the Department of Anesthesiology, the Division of Quality and Patient Safety, the Office of Graduate Medical Education, and support from senior hospital administration resulted in the creation of the first Housestaff Quality Council © (HQC) at New York-Presbyterian Hospital in 2008. Since its creation, the HQC has promoted greater housestaff participation in quality and patient safety initiatives at the hospital by partnering with key constituencies to ensure that processes and systems are in place to avoid medical errors. Key successes include attaining a greater than 90% compliance with medication reconciliation and reduction in the use of paper laboratory orders, in favor of electronic orders, by more than 70%.

Henry Ford Health System, Detroit, MI

In 2008, the Henry Ford Health System (HFHS) launched its No Harm Campaign, designed to integrate harm reduction interventions into a system-wide initiative and eliminate harm from the health care experience. The campaign aims to decrease harm events through enhancing the system's culture of safety by reporting and studying harm events, researching causality, identifying priorities, redesigning care to eliminate harm, and employing a comprehensive set of measures across their facilities. From April 2008-June 2011, using the defined set of measures which has expanded over time, a 26% reduction in harm events and 12% reduction in mortality occurred system-wide.

HONORARY LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Jerod M. Loeb, Ph.D., The Joint Commission, Oakbrook Terrace, IL

In addition to the 2011 honorees selected for this year's Eisenberg Awards, the jury panel chose to recognize the extraordinary and sustained contributions to health care quality and patient safety of Dr. Jerod M. Loeb, executive vice president, Division of Healthcare Quality Evaluation, The Joint Commission, in the form of an Honorary Lifetime Achievement Award.

Dr. Loeb is being recognized for his leadership in The Joint Commission's performance measurement initiative. Since his arrival at The Joint Commission in 1994, he has played a leadership role in identifying, evaluating and implementing performance measures across the wide variety of Joint Commission accreditation and certification programs. He is involved in a variety of national and international initiatives associated with performance measurement and patient safety, including those of the National Quality Forum, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the International Society for Quality in Health Care, and the World Health Organization. His work has resulted in thousands of hospitals and health care organizations realizing the importance of accurate, focused performance measurement in driving quality improvement, paving the way for federal performance measurement requirements that continue to be rolled out today. Dr. Loeb received his Ph.D. in cardiovascular physiology in 1977 from the State University of New York – Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn, NY, and a Bachelor of Science in Biology (with honors) from the College of Staten Island, City University of New York, in 1971.

Dr. Loeb's other life passion is fire, police, and emergency medical services. In 1998, he began volunteering his time with the Buffalo Grove, Illinois Fire Department, and since 2005, has an official State of Illinois municipal appointment as Fire and Police Commissioner for his suburban community of 45,000 in the northwest suburbs of Chicago.

"The Eisenberg Award recipients provide inspiration in national efforts to create a highly reliable health care system," says Mark R. Chassin, M.D., FACP, M.P.P., M.P.H., president, The Joint Commission. "We applaud their commitment and their courage in making health care safer."

"This year's recipients truly exemplify the spirit of this award program," said Janet Corrigan, Ph.D., M.B.A., president and CEO, NQF. "Their innovative contributions to health care quality and safety will have a lasting impact. These efforts save lives, inspire leadership, and serve as a beacon to other learning organizations that want to deliver safe, effective care 100 percent of the time."

This year's John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Awards will be presented during a lunch session on April 5, 2012 at NQF's Annual Conference and Membership Meeting in Washington, DC. Focused on the theme, "Building a Patient- and Family-Centered Health System," the agenda includes an opening keynote from Jessie Gruman, PhD, president and founder of the Center for Advancing Health. In her remarks, Dr. Gruman will share her perspective on our current healthcare system "through the patient's eyes," and recommendations for how to make the system more patient and family centered.

Additional [sessions](#) for the day-long program include:

- Policy Initiatives: The Patient-Centered Outcomes Institute
- Policy Initiatives: Making Care Seamless
- Patient Centered Healthcare Delivery: Would We Know It if We Saw It?
- Health Information Technology and Patient Engagement
- The Challenges of Measurement

The closing keynote, "Using Patient-Centered Measures to Transform Healthcare Delivery," will be delivered by Ziad Haydar, M.D., M.B.A., chief medical officer, Ascension Health. Dr. Haydar will address how a leading-edge system successfully uses patient-centered measurement tools to encourage more substantive, meaningful patient and family engagement and how these instruments can help improve care delivery.

A detailed agenda and additional information about the event, including registration, is available [online](#).

The June 2012 issue of *The Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety* also will feature the achievements of each of the award recipients.

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Founded in 1951, The Joint Commission seeks to continuously improve health care for the public, in collaboration with other stakeholders, by evaluating health care organizations and inspiring them to excel in providing safe and effective care of the highest quality and value. The Joint Commission evaluates and accredits more than 19,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States, including more than 10,300 hospitals and home care organizations, and more than 6,500 other health care organizations that provide long term care, behavioral health care, laboratory and ambulatory care services. The Joint Commission currently certifies more than 2,000 disease-specific care programs, focused on the care of patients with chronic illnesses such as stroke, joint replacement, stroke rehabilitation, heart failure and many others. The Joint Commission also provides health care staffing services certification for more than 750 staffing offices. An independent, not-for-profit organization, The Joint Commission is the nation's oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in health care. Learn more about The Joint Commission at www.jointcommission.org.

The National Quality Forum (NQF) operates under a three-part mission to improve the quality of American healthcare by:

- Building consensus on national priorities and goals for performance improvement and working in partnership to achieve them;
- Endorsing national consensus standards for measuring and publicly reporting on performance; and
- Promoting the attainment of national goals through education and outreach programs.

Learn more at: www.qualityforum.org

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News Item

2010 John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Award Recipients Announced

January 12, 2011

By: **Elizabeth Eaken Zhani**, Media Relations Manager



(OAKBROOK TERRACE, Ill. – January 12, 2011) The National Quality Forum (NQF) and The Joint Commission today announced the 2010 recipients of the annual John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Awards. Honorees were selected in three award categories.

The patient safety awards program, launched in 2002 by NQF and The Joint Commission, honors John M. Eisenberg, M.D., M.B.A., former administrator of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). Dr. Eisenberg was one of the founding leaders of NQF and sat on its Board of Directors. In his roles both as AHRQ administrator and chair of the federal government's Quality Inter-Agency Coordination Task Force, he was a passionate advocate for patient safety and health care quality and personally led AHRQ's grant program to support]

The honorees, by award category, are:

INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT (two recipients)

- John H. Eichhorn, M.D.—University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky
Dr. Eichhorn is being recognized for his work in improving the quality of anesthesia care and patient safety through the development and application of practice standards and protocols. His contributions have led to dramatic and sustained reductions in catastrophic intra-operative anesthesia accidents, as well as improved anesthesia patient safety and quality of care overall.
- James L. Reinertsen, M.D.—The Reinertsen Group, Alta, Wyoming
Dr. Reinertsen is being recognized for his life-long leadership in improving health care quality and safety in medical groups, hospitals and health systems. His teaching and guidance have stimulated the leaders of scores of health systems in the United States, Canada, and Europe to achieve and sustain dramatic improvements in mortality rates, nosocomial infections, serious harm events, and other important measures of safety.

INNOVATION IN PATIENT SAFETY AND QUALITY AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

- Washington State Hospital Association, Seattle, Washington
This organization is being recognized for its Safe Tables Learning Collaborative program, which provides the fundamental infrastructure for Washington hospitals to share their experiences and learn from each other and from patient safety experts at the local and national levels. The program focuses on standardizing safety practices, preventing infections, improving hand hygiene, increasing staff influenza immunizations, creating rapid response teams, enhancing board leadership, and engaging patients and families in ensuring safe care and reducing readmissions.

INNOVATION IN PATIENT SAFETY AND QUALITY AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

- The Children's Hospital at Providence Newborn Intensive Care Unit, Anchorage, Alaska
This organization is being recognized for its multi-year quality improvement project to eliminate catheter-related blood stream infection (CRBSI) in the neonatal intensive care unit. Improvement was accomplished incrementally over several years beginning with the elimination of CRBSI associated with umbilical catheters in 2007, peripherally inserted catheters in 2008, and surgically placed catheters in 2009. The organization achieved and sustained success through implementing best practices in conjunction with using clinical microsystems principles and creating a learning culture within the context of clinical practice.

"The innovative and exemplary work of these individuals and health care organizations hopefully will not only inform, but also inspire others to become champions of patient safety and quality improvement. Their achievements make it clear that substantial improvements can be made in patient safety," says Mark R. Chassin, M.D., FACP, M.P.P., M.P.H., president, The Joint Commission. "We applaud their commitment and courage in pursuing changes that have improved the lives of many."

"This year's recipients have all made significant contributions to improving patient safety and the quality of health care," says Janet Corrigan, Ph.D., M.B.A., president and CEO, NQF. "As organizations and as individuals, they have challenged the status quo and achieved meaningful results that can be replicated not just in the United States but around the world."

This year's awards will be presented February 25, 2011 at NQF's Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. An early 2011 issue of "The Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety" also will feature the achievements of each of the award recipients.





Eisenberg Award

January 25, 2010

2009 John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Award Recipients

(OAKBROOK TERRACE, Ill. – September 21, 2009) The National Quality Forum (NQF) and The Joint Commission today announced the 2009 recipients of the annual John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Awards. Honorees were selected in all five award categories. This year's awards feature a new international category.

The honorees, by award category, are as follows:

INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT

Gary S. Kaplan, M.D. - Virginia Mason Medical Center, Seattle, Washington

Dr. Kaplan, a practicing physician, is credited for guiding Virginia Mason Medical Center through a transformation that explicitly placed the interests of the patient first. Introducing breakthrough changes derived from the Toyota Production System, Dr. Kaplan spearheaded the creation of the Virginia Mason Production System. The patient safety and quality achievements realized at Virginia Mason as a result of consistently applying these innovative methods has attracted the interest and attention of health care leaders nationally and internationally.

RESEARCH

Tejal Gandhi, M.D. - Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts

Dr. Gandhi has been instrumental in increasing knowledge and awareness of safety issues in the outpatient setting and in designing improvement strategies for this setting, particularly through the use of information technology. Her groundbreaking work to better understand the epidemiology of a wide range of ambulatory safety concerns is responsible for drawing national attention to safety issues and potential prevention in this important patient care setting.

INNOVATION IN PATIENT SAFETY AND QUALITY AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

Michigan Health & Hospital Association (MHA) Keystone Center for Patient Safety & Quality – Lansing, Michigan

The MHA Keystone Center used a quality improvement collaborative to focus on interventions to improve patient safety and prevent harm in intensive care units (ICU). Two of the interventions, eliminating central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSIs) and the Comprehensive Unit-Based Safety Program (CUSP), have produced notable results in eliminating CLABSIs in Michigan ICUs. More than 1,800 lives have been saved, more than 129,000 excess hospital days avoided, and more than \$247 million health care dollars saved in the five years since the interventions were first implemented.

INNOVATION IN PATIENT SAFETY AND QUALITY AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

Mercy Hospital Anderson – Cincinnati, Ohio

Mercy Hospital Anderson developed and implemented a Modified Early Warning System (MEWS), a simple scoring system that is applied to the physiological vital signs routinely measured by nurses. MEWS provides nurses with a tool to evaluate subtle signs that predict the patient's likelihood of deterioration, to increase calls to the organization's Rapid Response Team, and to decrease the incidence of Code Blues.

INTERNATIONAL

Noreen Zafar, M.D., F.R.C.O.G. – Lahore, Pakistan

Dr. Zafar's vision is to offer high quality gynecological care and empower women to become good decision makers regarding their own health and their family's health. Dr. Zafar has worked independently to promote wellness among girls and women, without government or any other support. She has overcome many social taboos in her quest and has established health awareness programs related to pre-cancer screening, teenage gynecological health, and reproductive health. Dr. Zafar has initiated nearly a dozen campaigns under the umbrella of the Women's Health Initiative such as "Say No to Osteoporosis," "Beat Menopause," "Prioritize Pink," "Folic Acid Campaign," "Women Matter," and "The Pakistan Group for Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology" to improve girls and women's health.

"The Eisenberg Award shines a spotlight on the frontline work that is occurring worldwide to improve health care quality by making a difference in patient safety," says Mark R. Chassin, M.D., M.P.P., M.P.H., president, The Joint Commission. "These innovations and public commitments to safe, reliable care serve as an example for what can be achieved."

"This year's winners represent the best of what is possible in improving the safety and quality of health care," says Janet Corrigan, Ph.D., M.B.A., president and CEO, National Quality Forum. "They are at the forefront of their fields and have taken risks to improve health care by addressing the way care is delivered. They have carried on John Eisenberg's commitment to safety and quality and have truly improved health care."

This year's awards will be presented at NQF's Annual Policy Conference: Beyond Measure - The Quality Imperative in Healthcare Reform in National Harbor, Maryland, October 14-15. The December 2009 issue of The Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety will feature the achievements of each of the award recipients.

The patient safety awards program, launched in 2002 by NQF and The Joint Commission, honors John M. Eisenberg, M.D., M.B.A., former administrator of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). Dr. Eisenberg was one of the founding leaders of NQF and sat on its Board of Directors. In his roles both as AHRQ administrator and chair of the federal government's Quality Inter-Agency Coordination Task Force, he was a passionate advocate for patient safety and health care quality and personally led AHRQ's grant program to support patient safety research.



Eisenberg Award

January 21, 2009

The 2008 John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Awards

The National Quality Forum (NQF) and The Joint Commission today announced the 2008 recipients of the annual John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Awards. Honorees were selected in all four award categories. This year's awards also feature a new honorary award for individual achievement.

The honorees, by award category, are as follows:

INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT

Michael R. Cohen, R. Ph., M.S., Sc.D. – Institute for Safe Medication Practices, Huntingdon Valley, Pennsylvania

Dr. Cohen is being recognized for his life-long professional commitment to promoting safe medication use and a safe medication delivery system. He has routinely challenged legislators and regulators, practitioners, professional organizations and pharmaceutical manufacturers to recognize their responsibility to eliminate preventable morbidity and mortality due to medication errors. As the founder of the Institute for Safe Medications Practices and co-founder of the voluntary and confidential Medication Error Reporting Program, he has championed improvements in drug naming, labeling, packaging, delivery systems and regulation and has influenced changes to hundreds of drug products and the removal of others. In addition, Dr. Cohen has written prolifically on the subject of medication error prevention and has served on numerous national and international committees.

RESEARCH

The RAND Corporation and University of California at Los Angeles School of Medicine, Los Angeles, California

The RAND Corporation and the UCLA School of Medicine are being honored for the development of a comprehensive set of measures, known as the ACOVE (Assessing the Care of Vulnerable Elders) project, intended to assess and improve the medical care provided to vulnerable elderly patients. This assessment, which was developed as a joint project of RAND and Pfizer Inc., forms the basis for implementing tested interventions known to improve patient care and safety for older adults at increased risk of functional decline or death. The ACOVE project represents a significant body of research that has resulted in improved patient care and safety for this rapidly growing at-risk population with unique health care needs and preferences.

INNOVATION IN PATIENT SAFETY AND QUALITY AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

National Coordinating Council for Medication Error Reporting and Prevention, Rockville, Maryland

This organization is being recognized for its substantive body of work to promote medication error reporting and prevention through the broad dissemination of Council work products. These products include the internationally recognized definition of a medication error and other standardized definitions, the index for categorizing medication errors, the taxonomy of medication errors, development and dissemination of multiple sets of recommendations spanning the medication use process, the conduct of two national conferences addressing the use of bar coding and the non-standardized use of suffixes in drug names and many other critical work products that influence the safe use of medications. The Council is comprised of representatives from 24 national organizations who have worked collaboratively over the last 10 years to accomplish the objectives of the Council.

INNOVATION IN PATIENT SAFETY AND QUALITY AT THE LOCAL LEVEL (Two recipients)

Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Virginia, subsidiary of WellPoint Inc., Richmond, Virginia

This organization is being recognized for its development and implementation of performance-based reimbursement programs for Virginia hospitals, cardiologists and cardiac surgeons. These programs are known as the Quality-In-Sights®: Hospital Incentive Program (Q-HIPSM) and Quality Physician Performance Program (Q-P3SM). Q-HIP and QP3 reward hospitals and physicians for practicing evidence-based medicine and implementing other nationally recognized best practices. By aligning hospital and physician goals, these unique programs foster collaborative efforts to improve care across the health care system. By using the metrics based on all-payer, non-administrative data, Q-HIP and Q-P3 endeavor to bring high quality care to all patients and communities.

New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation, New York, New York

The organization is being honored for developing and implementing its transparency website, known as HHC in Focus. HHC in Focus is designed to make performance data accessible and transparent to all patients and consumers, to demonstrate HHC's willingness to be accountable for the care delivered throughout the system, and to foster a culture of continuous improvement. Data displayed on this site demonstrate the effectiveness of the organization's core investments in patient safety, best practices and quality improvement. The website is a bold advance because it provides high visibility to not only system-wide data, but to hospital-specific data as well. Additionally, both positive data results and data that may indicate opportunities for improvement are displayed.

HONORARY AWARD for INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT

Dennis S. O’Leary, M.D., president emeritus of The Joint Commission, will receive an honorary lifetime achievement award for his leadership in, and many contributions to, improving the safety and quality of health care provided in the United States. Dr. O’Leary, who led the Joint Commission for 21 years until his retirement in 2007, is credited with successfully transforming the accreditation process to focus on organization performance in the provision of patient care. This transformation set the stage for the progressive introduction of care-related outcomes and process measures, as well as National Patient Safety Goals, into the accreditation process. Dr. O’Leary also oversaw the introduction of cutting-edge standards relating to patient safety, pain management, use of patient restraints, and emergency preparedness. In recent years, he spearheaded the launching of a series of Joint Commission public policy initiatives which have addressed the nurse staffing crisis, health professions educational reform, and the nexus between patient safety and the tort system, among others.

“We applaud each of these recipients for their outstanding efforts which have advanced patient safety in the United States,” says Mark R. Chassin, M.D., M.P.P., M.P.H. president, The Joint Commission. “By demonstrating a commitment to patient safety and the willingness to take the chances that innovations require, they have inspired the American health care community and improved the lives of patients.”

“This year’s Eisenberg winners are truly leaders in their field, and their work to increase patient safety is instrumental in moving U.S. health care toward a system of high-quality, safe care,” says NQF President and CEO Janet Corrigan, Ph.D., M.B.A. “They inspire us to remember that patient safety should be the central focus of all health care.”

This year’s awards will be presented on Thursday, October 16, at NQF’s Annual Policy Conference: Quality at the Crossroads in Arlington, Virginia. The December 2008 issue of *The Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety* will feature the achievements of each of the award recipients.

The patient safety awards program, launched in 2002 by NQF and The Joint Commission, honors John M. Eisenberg, M.D., M.B.A., former administrator of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). Dr. Eisenberg was one of the founding leaders of NQF and sat on its Board of Directors. In his roles both as AHRQ administrator and chair of the federal government’s Quality Inter-Agency Coordination Task Force, he was a passionate advocate for patient safety and health care quality and personally led AHRQ’s grant program to support patient safety research.



Eisenberg Award

September 25, 2007

The 2007 John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Awards

The National Quality Forum (NQF) and The Joint Commission today announced the 2007 recipients of the annual John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Awards. Honorees were selected in all four award categories.

The honorees, by award category, are as follows:

INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT (2 RECIPIENTS)

Flaura Koplín Winston, M.D., Ph.D. – Center for Injury Research and Prevention at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Winston is being recognized for her lifelong professional commitment to combining public health, biomechanical engineering and psychologic methodologies to promote safety and prevent injury among children from motor vehicle crashes. Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death and acquired disability among children. Dr. Winston established Partners for Child Passenger Safety (PCPS), a research to action program; the PCPS child-focused crash surveillance system today contains data from more than 500,000 crashes involving children. The research findings have informed improved safety design, as well as new legislation and regulations and anticipatory guidance by clinicians and public health educators. Child traffic deaths have been reduced by 15 percent since 1990, and PCPS is now recognized as the leading national resource for child safety experts. Dr. Winston has also provided expert input to national organizations such as the Institute of Medicine, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the United States Product Safety Commission.

Darrell A. Campbell, Jr., M.D. – University of Michigan Hospitals and Health Centers

Dr. Campbell is being recognized for advancing quality improvement initiatives at the national, regional and local levels. He led the expansion of the National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (NSQIP) from the Veterans Administration to the private sector, and has then used that experience to design and develop the Michigan Surgical Quality Collaborative (MSQC), a quality collaborative based on NSQIP. The MSQC is today a partnership involving 34 Michigan hospitals, the American College of Surgeons, and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. At the local level, Dr. Campbell has distinguished himself as chief of staff at the University of Michigan Health System where he has implemented multiple patient safety and quality improvement-related initiatives. These include a hospital-wide rapid response team; regular patient safety rounds; establishment of a "full disclosure" policy for medical errors; provision for annual patient safety training for all employees; and a patient safety certification program for house officers.

RESEARCH

Eric J. Thomas M.D., MPH – The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

Dr. Thomas' broad-based patient safety and quality research activities have focused on the epidemiology of errors and adverse events, teamwork, incident reporting, measuring and improving cultures of safety, claims file analysis, pediatric patient safety, geriatric patient safety, and organizational learning. His work has been featured in leading quality and safety journals and other peer reviewed publications, and his expert opinion and research findings have been relied upon by the Institute of Medicine, the World Health Organization, and the Institute for Healthcare Excellence, among others.

INNOVATION IN PATIENT SAFETY AND QUALITY AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Harvard Medical School – Boston, Mass.

This organization is being recognized for the adaptation and application of the military and commercial aviation Crew Resource Management (CRM) principles to the field of obstetrics. After the CRM curriculum was modified for clinical application, 220 staff received training to incorporate the CRM principles and concepts into their daily work processes. The result was a dramatic reduction in major adverse obstetric events, which reduced malpractice liability exposure and improved overall patient safety and the quality of obstetric care. Specifically, a 25.4 percent reduction in the Adverse Outcomes Index (a measure developed for the project) was realized, and the severity of adverse events was reduced by 13.4 percent. The success of this work has been broadly recognized and has driven or influenced similar initiatives, including those of the Harvard Risk Management Foundation, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the State of Maryland, and the District of Columbia, among others.

INNOVATION IN PATIENT SAFETY AND QUALITY AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

Evanston Northwestern Healthcare – Evanston, Ill.

This organization is being recognized for its development and deployment of the first universal admission surveillance program for methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA). The first year of this patient safety initiative resulted in a 62 percent reduction of MRSA and avoidance of more than 50 episodes of MRSA infection. The approach utilized was judged to be easily and cost effectively reproducible in any organization, and, as such, has the potential to have a significant impact on the nationally increasing mortality rates and rising costs associated with MRSA infections.

This year's awards will be presented on September 27, 2007 at NQF's Annual Policy Conference on Quality in Washington, D.C. The December 2007 issue of The Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety will feature the achievements of each of the award recipients.

"We applaud each of these outstanding recipients for their efforts which have truly advanced patient safety in the United

States," says Dennis S. O'Leary, M.D., president, The Joint Commission. "Their demonstrated commitment to patient safety and innovative efforts are inspirations to the American health care community."

"The Eisenberg Awards are very important to all of us who are working to enhance health care quality and more importantly, reducing the suffering that unfortunately happens in the health care environment," says Janet M. Corrigan, Ph.D., president and CEO, National Quality Forum. Each one of these awardees are examples of people and organizations that are making a difference and leading the health care industry into a better, safer tomorrow for patients and health care consumers."

The patient safety awards program, launched in 2002 by NQF and The Joint Commission, honors John M. Eisenberg, MD, MBA, former administrator of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). Dr. Eisenberg was one of the founding leaders of the NQF and sat on its board of directors. In his roles both as AHRQ administrator and chair of the federal government's Quality Inter-Agency Coordination Task Force, he was a passionate advocate for patient safety and health care quality and personally led AHRQ's grant program to support patient safety research.



Eisenberg Award

September 19, 2006

The 2006 John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Awards

The National Quality Forum (NQF) and the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations congratulate the 2006 recipients of the annual John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Awards. Honorees were selected in three of the four Award categories.

The honorees, by award category, are:

Individual Achievement

Donald Berwick, MD, MPP, KBE, is president, CEO and cofounder of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement in Boston. Dr. Berwick has published extensively in professional journals in the areas of health care policy, decision analysis, technology assessment, and health care quality management. Dr. Berwick has received numerous awards and honors for his work, including the Joint Commission's 1999 Ernest A. Codman Award, and, in 2001, the first Alfred I. duPont Award for excellence in children's health care from Nemours, one of the nation's largest pediatric health care provider organizations. In 2002, he was given the "Award of Honor" from the American Hospital Association for outstanding leadership in improving health care quality, and in 2004, he was inducted as a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians in London. In 2005, in recognition of his exemplary work for the National Health Service in the UK, he was appointed honorary Knight Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire—the highest award given to non-British citizens.

Research

Jerry H. Gurwitz, MD, is a nationally recognized expert in geriatric medicine and the use of drug therapy in the elderly. He holds the Dr. John Meyers Endowed Chair in Primary Care Medicine at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, where he is chief of the Division of Geriatric Medicine and Professor of Medicine and Family Medicine/Community Health. He also serves as the executive director of the Meyers Primary Care Institute. He has been the recipient of the William B. Abrams Award in Geriatric Clinical Pharmacology from the American Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics, and the George F. Archambault Award from the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists. Dr. Gurwitz's most recent research efforts relate to developing and testing interventions to reduce the risk of medication errors that lead to adverse drug events in the elderly.

Innovation in Patient Safety and Quality at a Regional Level (2 Recipients)

Minnesota Alliance for Patient Safety (MAPS), established in 2000, is a partnership between the Minnesota Hospital Association, Minnesota Medical Association, Minnesota Department of Health, and more than 50 other public-private health care organizations to improve patient safety. MAPS is a forum for sharing best practices and fostering commitment to patient safety improvement efforts.

Pennsylvania Patient Safety Authority is an independent state agency charged with taking steps to reduce and eliminate medical errors by identifying problems and recommending solutions that promote patient safety in hospitals, ambulatory surgical facilities, birthing centers, and other facilities.

Innovation in Patient Safety and Quality at a Local Level

The Wichita Citywide Heart Care Collaborative represents five institutions that developed multidisciplinary teams in November 2003 to meet the common goal of providing quality care in their community. This unique initiative enlisted the support of the city's key decision-makers to work together to improve patient care. Their combined efforts have provided valuable lessons and opportunities for sharing in-depth knowledge, resulting in the establishment of patient safety and quality improvement goals that exceeded the reach of any one of the organizations working in isolation.

This year's awards will be presented on Thursday, October 12, 2006 at NQF's Annual Policy Conference on Quality in Washington, DC. The December 2006 issue of the Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Safety will feature the achievements of each of the award recipients.

The NQF and Joint Commission applaud each of these outstanding recipients for their efforts which have advanced patient safety in the United States.

The patient safety awards program, launched in 2002 by NQF and the Joint Commission, honors John M. Eisenberg, MD, MBA, former administrator of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). Dr. Eisenberg was one of the founding leaders of the NQF and sat on its board of directors. In his roles both as AHRQ administrator and chair of the federal government's Quality Inter-Agency Coordination Task Force, he was a passionate advocate for patient safety and health care quality and personally led AHRQ's grant program to support patient safety research.



Eisenberg Award

January 20, 2006

2005 John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety Award Recipients

The National Quality Forum (NQF) and the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations congratulate the 2005 recipients of the annual John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Awards. Honorees were selected in three of the four Award categories.

The honorees, by award category, are:

Individual Achievement

Audrey L. Nelson, Ph.D., R.N., has led an array of research to improve the quality of care delivered to people with disabilities. A nationally recognized leader in clinical practice and research, she has magnified the scope of practice for patient safety and is a tireless advocate for those with disabilities. Dr. Nelson is Director, Patient Safety Research Center, at James A. Haley VA Hospital, Tampa, FL, and serves as Associate Director for Research for Nursing at the University of South Florida.

Innovation in Patient Safety and Quality at a National or Regional Level

Maryland Patient Safety Center, Maryland, implemented a unique and comprehensive statewide approach to patient safety improvement by bringing together a public-private partnership of health care providers and policymakers to study and learn from errors. Designated in 2004 by the Maryland Healthcare Commission, the Center seeks to make Maryland hospitals and nursing homes the safest in the nation.

Innovation in Patient Safety and Quality at a Local or Organizational Level (2 Recipients)

Meridian Health, New Jersey, realized significant improvements in the quality of care delivered to residents of Monmouth and Ocean counties in New Jersey just months after embedding evidence-based best practice guidelines into their computer-based physician order entry system. Physicians have embraced the use of the interactive practice guidelines for online ordering, resulting in the implementation of a dozen best practices into the system.

Sentara Healthcare, Virginia and North Carolina, a not-for-profit health care provider in southeastern Virginia and northeastern North Carolina, established and continues to promote a system-wide culture of safety through a comprehensive, error-prevention initiative. Key strategies include setting error prevention expectations for all staff, implementing a 'Common Cause Analysis Program,' and re-designing key work processes to foster safety.



Eisenberg Award

January 20, 2006

2004 John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety Award Recipients

The National Quality Forum (NQF) and the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations congratulate the recipients of the annual John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety Awards. This year, winners were selected in each of the four Award categories.

For complete information about any of the award-winning initiatives, refer to: *Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Safety*, December 2004, Vol. 30, No. 12.

The honorees, by award category, are:

Individual Achievement

Lucian Leape, M.D., of the Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Mass., for his fundamental conceptual contributions to contemporary understanding of the nature of medical errors and the extent of the patient safety problem, and for his tireless efforts to improve the safety of care for all patients.

Research Achievement

Peter Pronovost, M.D., Ph.D., of The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Md., for his creative research initiatives that have led to dramatic improvements in the safety and quality of care in intensive care units.

Innovation in Patient Safety and Quality at a National or Regional Level (2 winners)

Kaveh G. Shojania, M.D., and Robert M. Wachter, M.D., of the University of California at San Francisco, San Francisco, Calif., for the creation of a highly successful case-based approach to educating practitioners, provider organization leaders, policy-makers, and patients about patient safety issues—through the professional literature, the World Wide Web, and a best-selling nonfiction book.

Major Danny Jaghab, M.S., R.D., of Brooke Army Medical Center, San Antonio, Texas, for the creation of a distance learning program — now available through the U.S. Department of Defense —that provided education about sentinel events, root cause analyses, risk-reduction strategies, and policies and recommendations associated with the Joint Commission's National Patient Safety Goals.

Innovation in Patient Safety and Quality at a Local or Organization Level

University of Pittsburgh Medical Center —McKeesport, McKeesport, Penn., for development of personalized patient safety self-learning packets which have demonstrated their effectiveness in creating an organization culture of patient safety that facilitates the resolution of problems associated with hospital-acquired infections and falls.

"We applaud each of these outstanding winners for their innovative thinking and their passion for improving patient safety," said Dennis S. O'Leary, M.D., president, Joint Commission. "Their achievements have measurably advanced patient safety in the United States."

"I am pleased to add my congratulations to this year's recipients of the Eisenberg Awards," said Kenneth W. Kizer, M.D., M.P.H., president and chief executive officer, NQF. "Like John Eisenberg, these award recipients have demonstrated their commitment to improving the quality and safety of healthcare by their actions. Their example is a source of inspiration for all of us."

The patient safety awards program, launched in 2002 by NQF and the Joint Commission, honors John M. Eisenberg, M.D., M.B.A., administrator of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) at the time of his death in March of 2002. Eisenberg was one of the founding leaders of the NQF and sat on its board of directors. In his roles both as AHRQ administrator and chair of the federal government's Quality Inter-Agency Coordination Task Force, he was a passionate advocate for patient safety and health care quality and personally led AHRQ's grant program to support patient safety research.

The Eisenberg Award categories recognize individuals and organizations for:

- Individual Achievement – Individuals who have demonstrated exceptional leadership and scholarship in patient safety and health care quality through a substantive body of work.
- Research – Projects that involve the scholarly or scientific investigation of patient safety or new applications of quality measurement, reporting, or improvement.
- Innovation in Patient Safety and Quality at a National or Regional Level – Original projects or initiatives resulting in successful system changes or interventions that make the environment of care safer or improve advocacy on behalf of patients. Such projects have national or regional impact and may involve technology, protocols, educational approaches, organization culture change, or systems theory applications, among others.
- Innovation in Patient Safety and Quality at the Local or Organizational Level – Original projects or initiatives resulting in successful system changes or interventions that make the environment of care safer or improve advocacy on behalf of patients. These efforts have their primary impacts at the local or organization level, and may involve technology, protocols,

organization culture change, educational approaches, legislation, or system theory applications, among others.

Potential awardees may be considered in each category each year. However, an award need not be given in each category every year. Eighty nominations were received for the 2004 awards.



Eisenberg Award

January 21, 2006

2003 John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety Award Recipients

The National Quality Forum (NQF) and the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations congratulate the recipients of the annual John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety Awards. The 2003 honorees were selected in three of the four Award categories.

For complete information about any of the award-winning initiatives, see the Journal on Quality and Safety, December 2003. (Requires Adobe Reader)

The honorees are:

Individual Lifetime Achievement

Jeffrey Cooper, Ph.D., Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Mass.

For his innovative application of human factors research to anesthesia machine safety and for later pioneering the concept of critical incident analysis.

Advocacy

The Leapfrog Group, Washington, D.C.

For developing national purchaser consensus around a series of focused patient safety goals and leveraging their implementation in hospitals.

Lehigh Valley Hospital and Health Network, Allentown, Pa.

For its advocacy for and commitment to multi-disciplinary systems approaches, specifically including the active engagement of health care consumers and the community, to reduce preventable adverse events in the delivery of health care.

System Innovation

Abington Memorial Hospital, Abington, Pa.

For the creation of "The Virtual Anticoagulation Clinic," which successfully reduced the morbidity and mortality of patients taking anticoagulant medications.

The 2003 awards were presented at the NQF's Fourth Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., September 30, 2003.

"We applaud each of the winners for their achievements in improving patient safety," said Dennis S. O'Leary, M.D., president, Joint Commission. "The ultimate beneficiaries of the efforts undertaken by these winners are the patients served."

"It is a pleasure to recognize these individuals and organizations for their efforts to improve patient safety," said Kenneth W. Kizer, M.D., M.P.H., president and chief executive officer, NQF. "Improving health care quality for Americans is imperative for all of us, and this year's award winners set an example for all to emulate."

The patient safety awards program—launched in 2002 by NQF and the Joint Commission—honors John M. Eisenberg, M.D., M.B.A., who was administrator of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) at the time of his death in March of 2002. Eisenberg was also one of the founding leaders of the NQF and sat on its Board of Directors. In his roles both as AHRQ administrator and chair of the federal government's Quality Inter-Agency Coordination Task Force, he was a passionate advocate for patient safety and personally led AHRQ's new grant program to support patient safety research.

The Eisenberg Awards categories are as follows:

Individual Achievement – Individuals who have demonstrated exceptional leadership and scholarship in patient safety over their careers.

Advocacy – Projects or initiatives involving safety-related interventions on behalf of patients. These efforts may be in areas such as legislation, media reporting, or patient advocacy, among others.

System Innovation – Projects or initiatives involving successful system changes or interventions that make the environment of care safer. These efforts may involve technology, protocols and procedures, education, or organization culture, among others.

Research – Projects that involve the scholarly exploration of patient safety-related issues. These efforts may involve systems theory, technology, or data analyses, among others.

Awards may be given in each category each year. However, an award need not be given in each category every year. No Award winner was identified in the Research category this year.



Eisenberg Award

January 21, 2006

2002 John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety Award Recipients

The National Quality Forum (NQF) and the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations today announced the first recipients of the annual John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety Awards. For the 2002 year, winners were selected in each of the Award categories.

For complete information about any of the award-winning initiatives, see the Journal on Quality Improvement, December 2002. (Requires Adobe Reader)

The winners in the several categories are:

Individual Lifetime Achievement

Individuals who have demonstrated exceptional leadership and scholarship in patient safety over their careers.

Julianne Morath, R.N., M.S., Children's Hospitals and Clinics, Minneapolis, Minnesota

For her tireless and successful work at Children's Hospitals to introduce a culture of patient safety that promotes the sharing of information about errors to improve safety in the care of patients.

System Innovation

Projects or initiatives involving successful system changes or interventions that make the environment of care safer. These efforts may involve technology, protocols/procedures, education, or organization culture, among others.

Concord Hospital, Concord, New Hampshire

For developing and implementing a structured communications protocol, adapted from human factors science, which broke down hierarchical role boundaries and improved the care of cardiac surgery patients.

Veterans Health Administration National Center for Patient Safety, Ann Arbor, Michigan

For innovation and leadership in developing and implementing a systems approach to error reduction within the VHA's 163 health care facilities.

Advocacy

Projects or initiatives involving safety-related interventions on behalf of patients. These efforts may be in areas such as legislation, media reporting, or patient advocacy, among others.

Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Lexington, Kentucky

For its national leadership in openly, and voluntarily, disclosing health care errors to harmed individuals and/or their families.

Research

Projects that involve the scholarly exploration of patient safety-related issues. These efforts may involve systems theory, technology, or data analyses among others.

David W. Bates, M.D., M.Sc., Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts

For his cutting-edge research in using information technology to measure and improve patient safety, particularly in the area of medication safety.

The initial awards will be presented at the National Quality Forum's Third Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., on October 1, 2002.

"We applaud each of the winners for their sustained achievements in improving patient safety," said Dennis S. O'Leary, M.D., president, Joint Commission. "John Eisenberg would have been proud to be associated with their accomplishments."

"We are very pleased to recognize these outstanding leaders for the work they have done to improve patient safety," said Kenneth W. Kizer, M.D., M.Ph., president and chief executive officer, NQF. "These individuals and organizations exemplify John's passion for making health care better—both safer and of higher quality. Their work provides an enduring legacy to him."

Awards may be given in each category in any year. However, an award need not be given in each category every year. Eighty-eight nominations were received for the 2002 inaugural awards.