



HEALTH RESEARCH &
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In Partnership with AHA

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NEWS RELEASE

Hospital Engagement Network Program Reports Improvements in Care Benefit More Than 143,000 Patients with Cost Savings Over \$1.3 Billion

Chicago – July 16, 2014 – Hospitals have made great progress in their journey to improve the care patients receive, according to new results released today by the American Hospital Association (AHA)/Health Research & Educational Trust (HRET) Hospital Engagement Network (HEN). Hospital quality improved in areas such as readmissions, early elective deliveries and infections. Over the course of 28 months, more than 143,000 harms have been prevented with associated cost savings over \$1.3 billion.

As part of the federal Partnership for Patients initiative, the HEN project's goals are to reduce harm by 40 percent and readmissions by 20 percent. The AHA/HRET HEN comprises 31 participating states and U.S. Territories and more than 1,500 hospitals. The program has helped the hospital field develop the infrastructure, expertise and organizational culture that will support further improvements for years to come.

Some highlights from the findings show:

- Nearly 19,000 early-elective deliveries have been prevented;
- More than 110,000 readmissions were prevented; and
- More than 8,500 infections were prevented.

The results will be released as part of the 2nd Annual Quality & Safety Roadmap meeting hosted by the Symposium for Leaders in Healthcare Quality (SLHQ), a new forum of the AHA. The Roadmap meeting offers participants a focus on identifying and spreading effective practices for partnering with patients and families to eliminate harm and improve patient care.

“The latest results from the HEN effort are outstanding and highlight the success that quality improvement professionals can make within their hospitals and health systems,” said Maulik Joshi, president of HRET and senior vice president for AHA. “Our efforts to provide only the safest, highest-quality care are just beginning, and the HEN, through its hospital participants and state hospital partners, is making incredible strides forward. The AHA/HRET HEN has accelerated improvement nationally, and patients are benefiting every day from the spread and implementation of best practices.”

For more information on the project and to view the report, visit <http://www.hret-hen.org> or www.hret.org.

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Health Research & Educational Trust (HRET)

Founded in 1944, the Health Research & Educational Trust (HRET) is the not-for-profit research and education affiliate of the American Hospital Association (AHA). HRET's mission is to transform health care through research and education. HRET's applied research seeks to create new knowledge, tools, and assistance in improving the delivery of health care by providers in the communities they serve. For more information about HRET, visit www.hret.org.