



HEALTH RESEARCH &
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In Partnership with AHA

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NEWS RELEASE

Hospital Engagement Network Program Report Shows Improvements in Care Benefits to more than 69,000 Patients and Cost Savings of more than \$200 Million

WASHINGTON– February 5, 2014 – The American Hospital Association (AHA) / Health Research & Educational Trust (HRET) Hospital Engagement Network (HEN) today released its Annual Report, which highlights the program’s major successes of the past two years. The report shows that significant improvements in quality were made in key clinical areas. Together these improvements resulted in better care for an estimated 69,072 patients with associated cost savings of more than \$201,811,600.

This work has taken place as part of the federal Partnership for Patients initiative with the goals of reducing harm by 40 percent and readmissions by 20 percent. The program has helped the hospital field develop the infrastructure, expertise and organizational culture that will support further improvements for years to come. The AHA/HRET HEN has accelerated improvement nationally, and patients are benefiting every day from the spread and implementation of best practices.

“The HEN program has been an important tool in helping America’s hospitals and their dedicated employees significantly improve patient safety and reduce readmissions,” said Rich Umbdenstock, president and CEO of the AHA. “Hospitals have made incredible strides improving patient safety and reducing costs, and the HEN has been a critically important component of that work.”

The AHA/HRET HEN is comprised of 31 participating states and U.S. Territories and more than 1,500 hospitals. Of that total, 46 percent of hospitals in the AHA/HRET HEN are rural hospitals and 33 percent are critical access hospitals. This level of diversity offers a great opportunity for the HEN to achieve and share best practices that are relatable to all hospitals.

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“We are grateful to CMS for the opportunity to showcase how the HEN can serve as a model for many future quality improvement efforts,” said Maulik Joshi, president of HRET and senior vice president for AHA. “My wholehearted thanks to our partners and the hospitals participating for their work to date, because they are helping to ensure that patients only receive the best care – making their lives better.”

For more information on the project and 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.

About the AHA

The AHA is a not-for-profit association of health care provider organizations and individuals that are committed to the health improvement of their communities. The AHA is the national advocate for its members, which include nearly 5,000 hospitals, health care systems, networks, other providers of care and 43,000 individual members. Founded in 1898, the AHA provides education for health care leaders and is a source of information on health care issues and trends. For more information, visit the AHA website at www.aha.org.