



News Release

For Release: September 26, 2016

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Arkansas HEN Efforts Save \$27 Million

LITTLE ROCK – Over the course of an intensive twelve-month effort, 2,950 patient harms were prevented in 48 Arkansas hospitals participating in a national hospital quality improvement effort, with associated cost savings of nearly \$27 million (\$26,979,198).

According to results released this week by the American Hospital Association Health Research & Educational Trust (HRET) Hospital Engagement Network (HEN) and the Arkansas Hospital Association HEN, these hospitals are making great progress on the journey to improve patient care. Arkansas was one of 33 states participating in the AHA/HRET HEN which overall has prevented 34,442 harms and resulted in over \$288 million in cost savings.

HENs identify best practices proven to reduce hospital-acquired conditions and spread them to other hospitals and health care providers. These networks are a key element of the national Partnership for Patients campaign to improve the quality, safety and affordability of health care.

“The commitment and passion we have seen from our hospitals to their patients and their communities contributes to these results” according to Pam Brown, VP of Quality and Patient Safety at the Arkansas Hospital Association. Brown went

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CARE IMPROVEMENT -2-2-2-2

further to say, “We still have work to do and as healthcare becomes more complex, we have to create systems which result in the best outcomes”.

The Arkansas hospitals have been participating in the second phase of this national quality improvement effort, dubbed HEN 2.0, which closed September 23. HEN 1.0 was in action from December 2011 to December 2014, with 40 Arkansas hospitals participating.

HEN 2.0 targeted care improvements in 11 areas, including prevention of hospital-acquired infections or conditions, falls, early elective infant deliveries and preventable readmissions. Hospitals associated with the Arkansas Hospital Association’s HEN received technical assistance, educational opportunities, training, resources and the ability to participate in learning collaboratives to make progress in the hospital quality of care arena.

Arkansas hospitals participating in HEN 2.0 with the AHA include:

Arkansas Methodist Medical Center

Baxter Regional Medical Center

Bradley County Medical Center

CHI St. Vincent Hot Springs

CHI St. Vincent Infirmiry

CHI St. Vincent Morrilton

CHI St. Vincent North

Chicot Memorial Medical Center

Community Medical Center of Izard County

Conway Regional Medical Center

CrossRidge Community Hospital

Delta Memorial Hospital

DeWitt Hospital

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CARE IMPROVEMENT -3-3-3-3

Drew Memorial Hospital

Eureka Springs Hospital

Forrest City Medical Center

Fulton County Hospital

Helena Regional Medical Center

Howard Memorial Hospital

Jefferson Regional Medical Center

Johnson Regional Medical Center

Lawrence Memorial Hospital

Little River Memorial Hospital

Magnolia Regional Medical Center

Medical Center of South Arkansas

Mena Regional Health System

Mercy Hospital Fort Smith

Mercy Hospital Northwest Arkansas

National Park Medical Center

North Arkansas Regional Medical Center

North Metro Medical Center

Northwest Medical Center-Bentonville

Northwest Medical Center-Springdale

Ouachita County Medical Center

Ozarks Community Hospital

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CARE IMPROVEMENT -4-4-4-4

Piggott Community Hospital

Pinnacle Point Behavioral Health Services

River Valley Medical Center

Saint Mary's Regional Medical Center

Saline Memorial Hospital

Siloam Springs Regional Hospital

Sparks Regional Medical Center

Sparks Medical Center-Van Buren

Stone County Medical Center

UAMS Medical Center

Unity Health-Harris Medical Center

Unity Health-White County Medical Center

Willow Creek Women's Hospital

For more information on the Arkansas Hospital Association HEN and proposed upcoming national quality improvement efforts, please contact Pam Brown, Vice President, Quality and Patient Safety, Arkansas Hospital Association, 501.224.7878, or pbrown@arkhospitals.org.

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