

Dear Hospital Executive,

Patient safety is a chief responsibility of hospital executives and quality care is an expectation of patients, communities served and the staff providing their care. Ensuring success is challenging. We are writing today to request your commitment and partnership in reducing harm and readmissions in your hospital. Studies show that a proactive approach to addressing safety events results in higher quality of care, more value gained, and more lives saved. The Hospital Improvement Innovation Networks (HIINs), as key leaders of the Partnership for Patients, a public-private partnership working to improve the quality, safety and affordability of health care, stand ready to assist you in your patient safety efforts.

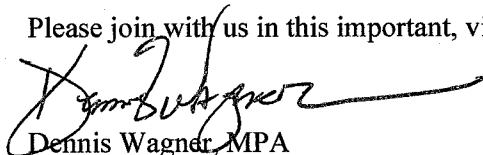
HHS launched the Partnership for Patients in 2011 to target a specific set of hospital-acquired conditions for reduction through systematic quality improvement. The work of PfP has contributed significantly to 3.1 Million fewer harms, 125,000 fewer deaths and \$28 Billion in cost savings. Details regarding these achievements can be found in the *National Scorecard on Rates of Hospital-Acquired Conditions* recently released by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. While these results represent improvement, there is still much more work to be done. The current estimated hospital harm rate is 115 harms/1,000 discharges. The expansive PfP network provides local technical assistance and access to a wide variety of tools, best practices and resources aimed at supporting your quality improvement journey in pursuit of a strong safety culture. It also provides a supportive learning network, facilitating your improvement efforts.

The 16 HIINs listed below are currently supporting over 3800 hospitals across the nation. The HIINs, together with their participating hospitals, encourage your commitment to achieve an additional 20 percent decrease in overall patient harm and a 12 percent reduction in 30-day hospital readmissions. Aims create systems, and systems generate results!

- Carolinas Healthcare System
- Dignity Health
- Healthcare Association of New York State
- HealthInsight
- The Health Research and Educational Trust of the American Hospital Association
- Health Research and Educational Trust of New Jersey
- Health Services Advisory Group
- The Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania
- Iowa Healthcare Collaborative
- Michigan Health & Hospital Association (MHA) Health Foundation
- Minnesota Hospital Association
- Ohio Children's Hospitals' Solutions for Patient Safety
- Ohio Hospital Association
- Premier, Inc.
- Vizient, Inc.
- Washington State Hospital Association

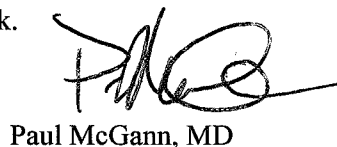
Additional information on the Partnership for Patients is available at: <https://partnershipforpatients.cms.gov/>.

Please join with us in this important, vibrant and life-saving work.



Dennis Wagner, MPA

Director, Quality Improvement and Innovation Group



Paul McGann, MD

Chief Medical Officer for Quality Improvement