



Advancing Quality
Patient Care
in Illinois





What is Quality?

The degree to which health services for individuals and populations increase the likelihood of desired health outcomes and are consistent with current professional knowledge.

Illinois hospitals are committed to ensuring that every patient gets the right care, at the right time, in the right setting. Relentless in our pursuit to advance quality patient care, the Illinois Hospital Association (IHA) has created the IHA Quality Care Institute (QCI), a new strategic center that builds on existing quality and safety initiatives, and designs innovative programs for strengthening the quality of health care. Through this new Institute, Illinois hospitals are creating initiatives for measurably strengthening the quality of health care—with the ultimate vision of becoming the national leaders in quality patient care.

Key Initiatives — IHA

Performance Improvement

- Share data, tools and best practices
- Facilitate learning and practical approaches through Patient Safety Collaboratives
- Work with the Midwest Alliance for Patient Safety
- Gain knowledge and experience from Illinois Risk Management Services

Advocacy

- Remove barriers to care coordination
- Cultivate opportunities for Illinois hospitals to strengthen quality and patient safety

Education and Training

- Spread learning and enhance knowledge through conferences, webinars, podcasts and other innovative programming

raising the bar

call to action

Campaign – 2010-2013

One of the first major IHA Quality Care Institute initiatives is the three-year **Raising the Bar: Call to Action** Campaign to reduce hospital readmissions and hospital-acquired conditions and infections. IHA members are joining the **Raising the Bar: Call to Action** Campaign, which calls for:

- Collaborating to reduce patient readmissions to hospitals;
- Sharing quality and safety data, tools and best practices with each other;
- Advocating for the removal of barriers to smooth transitions and improved coordination of care among providers; and
- Working closely with relevant stakeholders and interested parties on key quality and safety initiatives.

As part of this Campaign, Illinois hospitals are signing a pledge to engage in interventions over the next three years that will:

- Reduce 30-day hospital readmission rates for heart failure, heart attack, and pneumonia
- Reduce hospital-acquired conditions and infections including:
 - Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA)
 - C.difficile
 - Central Line Associated Bloodstream Infections (CLABSI)
 - Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infections (CAUTI)
 - Surgical-Site Infections
 - Deep Vein Thrombosis and Pulmonary Embolism following certain orthopedic procedures

Quality Care Institute

Consumer Information

- Host and update IHA 'Caring for You' website
- Engage in transparency initiatives

Research

- Identify trends and examine adverse events for potential areas of improvement
- Distribute timely studies on evidence-based practices

Partnerships

- Work closely with national, state and local organizations—as well as patients and families—to further quality and safety

Key Quality and Patient Safety Issues

- Improving quality performance
- Public reporting and transparency
- Health care disparities
- Variation on quality measurements and health spending
- Aligning performance measurements and payments around quality
- Pay-for-performance incentive payments
- Support for programs to assist hospitals that may need additional technical resources
- Standardized measurements
- Meaningful use



If you would like more information about IHA's Quality Care Institute, please contact Pat Merryweather at pmerryweather@ihastaff.org or Dottie Jackson at djackson@ihastaff.org.

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Quality Care Institute

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