



Rhode Island Quality Institute  
Hospital Association of Rhode Island  
Quality Partners of Rhode Island

*For Immediate Release*

*Amanda Barney (401) 946-7887 ext. 111*

## **STATEWIDE ICU COLLABORATIVE LAUNCHED**

*First State to Achieve 100% Participation*

**Providence, RI** – Hospitals from across the state gathered today to launch the Rhode Island ICU (Intensive Care Unit) Collaborative. The Collaborative aims to improve care for adult ICU patients by reducing length of stay, complications and associated costs. Participating teams will implement and evaluate proven strategies that address these issues. Intensive care units make use of the greatest advancements in medical science and represent areas with great opportunity to prevent medical death and reduce costs.

The Rhode Island ICU Collaborative has already proven itself unique. Rhode Island is the first state in the nation to achieve 100% hospital and intensive care unit participation in such a project. Work with this Collaborative will positively impact the care provided to patients in all 263 ICU beds across the state. Hospitals in Rhode Island care for over 16,000 patients each year in the ICU setting.

The Collaborative aims to improve efficiency, reduce costs, change culture and improve staffing through improved retention. Further, it will improve patient, family and staff satisfaction. The Collaborative will facilitate peer-to-peer ICU team sharing strategies that have been successfully implemented in similar ICU improvement work conducted by Johns Hopkins University. This work will also serve to augment existing hospital ICU quality improvement efforts in Rhode Island that have already had proven success. By working together with the ICU Collaborative hospitals will be able to bring patient care to the next level.

A long supporter of health care improvement, Congressman Patrick Kennedy was instrumental in bringing the concept of the ICU Collaborative to Rhode Island. Earlier this year, Representative Kennedy introduced Dr. Peter Pronovost to health care leaders in Rhode Island. Dr. Pronovost, through his work at Johns Hopkins University, has had tremendous success in improving outcomes for critical care patients in others states. He will now work with teams in Rhode Island to implement his proven strategies.

“I applaud the hospitals in Rhode Island for embarking on this important program,” said Congressman Patrick Kennedy. “I have supported this idea from its early stages and believe that it will achieve tremendous results in improving care while reducing costs.”

The Rhode Island ICU Collaborative was formed, with the support of Rep. Patrick Kennedy, by the Rhode Island Quality Institute (RIQI) and will be co-led by Quality Partners of Rhode Island and Hospital Association of Rhode Island; both are members of the RIQI board. Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island and UnitedHealthcare have agreed to fund the project’s management costs and hospitals will support the internal costs of the program.

“The Rhode Island ICU Collaborative is the first effort of its kind to achieve 100% participation within a state,” said Laura Adams, president and CEO of the Rhode Island Quality Institute. “The Collaborative will once again showcase our hospitals’ enthusiasm to work in partnership and further improve the care of our patients.”

“As the quality improvement organization for the state of Rhode Island working in partnership with hospitals to advance excellence in healthcare, we have seen first hand over the past 10 years how hospitals are making positive changes and improving patient care,” said Marcia Petrillo, chief executive officer of Quality Partners of Rhode Island. “We commend our state’s hospitals for making quality a top priority every day.”

“Measuring and improving clinical performance has long been a top priority for hospitals in Rhode Island,” said Cathy Duquette, Ph.D., RN, CPHQ, senior vice president of Hospital Association of Rhode Island. “Hospitals are ready to respond to the results found through the Collaborative with new ideas and solutions that will continue to improve the care provided to our patients.”

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