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**HOSPITALS IN RHODE ISLAND JOIN IHI'S 5 MILLION LIVES CAMPAIGN
TO REDUCE MEDICAL HARM THROUGHOUT THE NATION**

Rhode Island Achieves 100 Percent Participation in the Campaign

Providence, RI – June 25, 2007 – Hospitals in Rhode Island today announced that they have joined the Institute for Healthcare Improvement's 5 Million Lives Campaign, a national campaign to reduce incidents of medical harm in U.S. hospitals. The 5 Million Lives Campaign asks hospitals to improve the care they provide in order to protect patients from five million incidents of medical harm over a 24-month period, ending December 9, 2008. It represents a continuation of the largest improvement effort undertaken in recent history by the health care industry. Rhode Island is among a handful of states that have achieved 100 percent participation in the Campaign.

The Campaign was formally unveiled on December 12, 2006 and has been endorsed by the American Hospital Association, the American Nurses Association, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and the Joint Commission.

The 5 Million Lives Campaign builds upon the success of the 100,000 Lives Campaign, in which 3,100 participating hospitals reduced inpatient deaths by an estimated 122,000 in 18 months through overall improvement in care and patient safety. The new Campaign will promote the adoption of up to 12 improvements in care that can save lives and reduce patient injuries. In addition, it will build upon existing quality improvement activities in Rhode Island that have already proven successful.

The Hospital Association of Rhode Island and Quality Partners of Rhode Island have joined to assist hospitals throughout the Campaign by providing effective and timely support.

"Rhode Island is a national leader in quality improvement," said Edward Quinlan, president of the Hospital Association of Rhode Island. "This Campaign is another in a long line of examples of hospitals' commitment to working in partnership to further improve the care of our patients."

"Quality Partners of Rhode Island, with its quality improvement resources, is pleased to participate in this important collaborative Campaign," added H. John Keimig, Quality Partners

chief executive officer. “We continue to support the state’s hospitals in their quest to provide the people of Rhode Island with quality and safe patient care.”

“The health care organizations that join the 5 Million Lives Campaign are not only demonstrating their commitment to improvement but their determination to reduce unnecessary harm by implementing proven best practices,” said Donald Berwick, IHI President and CEO.

Hospitals in Rhode Island will work to address the following interventions as part of their participation in the 5 Million Lives Campaign:

- **Prevent methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) infection** by implementing scientifically proven infection control practices throughout the hospital
- **Reduce harm from high-alert medications** starting with a focus on anticoagulants, sedatives, narcotics, and insulin
- **Reduce surgical complications** by implementing the changes in care recommended by the Surgical Care Improvement Project (SCIP)
- **Prevent pressure ulcers** by using science-based guidelines for prevention of this serious and common complication
- **Deliver reliable, evidence-based care for congestive heart failure** to reduce readmissions
- **Get boards on board** by defining and spreading new and leveraged processes for hospital boards of directors, so that they can become more effective in accelerating the improvement of care
- **Deploy rapid response teams** at the first sign of patient decline.
- **Deliver reliable, evidence-based care for acute myocardial infarction** to prevent deaths from heart attack.
- **Prevent adverse drug events** by reconciling patient medications at every transition point in care.
- **Prevent central line infections** by implementing a series of interdependent, scientifically grounded steps.
- **Prevent surgical site infections** by following a series of steps, including reliable, timely administration of correct perioperative antibiotics.
- **Prevent ventilator-associated pneumonia** by implementing a series of interdependent, scientifically grounded steps.

The 5 Million Lives Campaign is made possible through the generous leadership and support of America’s Blue Cross and Blue Shield health plans. IHI also acknowledges the leadership and support of the Cardinal Health Foundation, and the support of the Blue Shield of California Foundation, the Aetna Foundation, Baxter International, Inc., and Abbott Point-of-Care. This initiative builds on work begun in the 100,000 Lives Campaign, supported by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, the Cardinal Health Foundation, the Rx Foundation, the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, The Colorado Trust, the Blue Shield of California Foundation, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Baxter International, Inc., The Leeds Family, and the David Calkins Memorial Fund.

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Founded over a half century ago, the Hospital Association of Rhode Island is a statewide trade organization that assists member hospitals in effectively meeting the health care needs of Rhode Island, through advocacy, representation, education and services. HARI members work collaboratively to address issues threatening access to health care including increasing health costs, rising medical liability premiums and decreasing reimbursement. Together we work to ensure that all Rhode Islanders will receive comprehensive, high quality health care.

Quality Partners is a national leader in healthcare quality improvement. It provides healthcare professionals with consultation, tools, and reliable information to improve the quality of their services. Quality Partners also encourages consumers to work with their healthcare providers to be as healthy as possible.

The Institute for Healthcare Improvement (www.ihl.org) is a not-for-profit organization leading the improvement of health care throughout the world. Founded in 1991 and based in Cambridge, MA, IHI is a catalyst for change, cultivating innovative concepts for improving patient care and implementing programs for putting those ideas into action. Thousands of health care providers, including many of the finest hospitals in the world, participate in IHI's groundbreaking work.