



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHI St. Joseph's Health earns patient safety award

PARK RAPIDS, MN (FEB. 11, 2015) –The Minnesota Hospital Association (MHA) has honored CHI St. Joseph's Health for its commitment to patient safety and participation in a three-year Partnership for Patients Hospital Engagement Network initiative.

CHI St. Joseph's also earned an MHA Patient Safety Excellence Award for reaching a benchmark on six or more initiative topics in addition to meeting all of the leadership criteria and three or more of the patient and family engagement criteria.

CHI St. Joseph's is one of only eight hospitals in the state to achieve this recognition.

These honors acknowledge the dedication and resources CHI St. Joseph's devotes to enhance quality and safety for its patients.

“CHI St. Joseph's administration, clinical leaders and care team members work to address key safety initiatives by developing an infrastructure that provides evidence-based best practices, tools and resources to prevent adverse events from happening,” says Chris Broeker, CHI St. Joseph's Director of Quality. “Another key area of focus is hospital caregivers engaging patients and families as important partners in their care.”

The Partnership for Patients initiative addresses hospital-acquired conditions including pressure ulcers, falls, obstetrical adverse events, venous thromboembolism, adverse drug events, surgical site infections, catheter-associated urinary tract infections, ventilator-associated pneumonia, central line-associated bloodstream infections and readmissions.

A total of 115 Minnesota hospitals participated in the initiative that impacted patient safety for 12,000 patients and saved more than \$93 million as a result of a reduction in hospital-acquired conditions from 2010-13. The largest improvements were

in the number of hospital readmissions prevented; reduction in elective deliveries prior to 39 weeks gestation; fewer patient falls; fewer adverse drug events; fewer infections; and fewer patients experiencing a pressure ulcer.

“Minnesota has earned a national reputation for providing high quality patient-centered care, and we are working hard every day to make it better and more affordable,” said Lawrence Massa, MHA president and CEO. “Our hospitals are committed to providing high quality, safe care for patients, and these efforts demonstrate the commitment of our caregivers. Every patient deserves care that is tailored to them.”

Other MHA Patient Safety Excellence Awards awarded to CHI St. Joseph’s include: SAFE ACCOUNT, 2012; SAFE COUNT, 2009; SAFE from FALLS, 2008; SAFE SITE, 2008; and SAFE SKIN, 2008.

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Cutline

CHI St. Joseph’s Health quality and patient safety leaders working together on the Partnership for Patients safety initiative include: (front, from left) Jennifer Schauland and Crystal Frette, (back) Becky Bentley, Deb Haagenson, Rhonda Eckert, Chris Broeker, and Scott Kosel. Not pictured are Kirstin Thorstad and Wendy Gullicksrud.

About CHI St. Joseph’s Health

CHI St. Joseph’s Health is a 25-bed critical access hospital serving communities in Hubbard, Becker, Cass and Wadena Counties since 1946. In recent years, CHI St. Joseph’s Health’s award-winning teams took several national honors including: The Joint Commission Top Performer on Key Quality Measures in surgery; Top 100 Critical Access Hospital, HealthStrong; WomenCertified’s America’s Best Hospitals Women’s Choice Award in obstetrics; and the Studer Group Fire Starter Healthcare Organization of the Month among other national and state recognitions.

About CHI

Catholic Health Initiatives, one of the nation's largest health systems, was formed in 1996 to strengthen the Catholic health ministry for the future. With deep roots in the tradition of expressing Christ's love by caring for those in need, Catholic Health Initiatives serves more than four million people each year through acute care hospitals; long-term care, assisted and residential-living facilities; community-based health services; home care; research and development; and reference laboratory services.

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