

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### ACHE BECOMES A PARTNER IN IHI'S 5 MILLION LIVES CAMPAIGN TO REDUCE MEDICAL HARM THROUGHOUT THE NATION

**CHICAGO – March 5, 2007** – The American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) today announced that it has joined the Institute for Healthcare Improvement's (IHI) 5 Million Lives Campaign, a national campaign to dramatically reduce incidents of medical harm in U.S. hospitals. The 5 Million Lives Campaign asks hospitals 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 100,000 Lives Campaign, the largest improvement effort undertaken in recent history by the healthcare industry.

ACHE joins an esteemed group of partners that are supporting the 5 Million Lives Campaign, including among others:

- The American Hospital Association
- The American Nurses Association
- The American Heart Association
- The American College of Cardiology
- The American College of Physicians
- The American College of Surgeons
- The Society for Hospital Medicine
- The Joint Commission
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
- The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America
- The Association of Professionals in Infection Control

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- The Institute for Safe Medication Practices
- The National Patient Safety Foundation
- The National Quality Forum

The 5 Million Lives Campaign builds upon the success of the 100,000 Lives Campaign in which more than 3,100 participating hospitals joined together in a national effort to avoid 100,000 unnecessary inpatient deaths over an 18-month period (December 2004 through June 2006). The new Campaign promotes the adoption of up to 12 improvements in care (detailed below) that can save lives and reduce patient injuries, and it aims to enroll even more hospitals than participated in the previous Campaign.

“There is no more important focus for healthcare leaders than ensuring the provision of safe, high-quality services. The partnership with IHI will help ensure that healthcare organizations aggressively apply the lessons of evidence-based methods to improve patient safety,” said Thomas C. Dolan, PhD, FACHE, CAE, president and CEO of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

IHI and ACHE already collaborate on books dealing with patient safety. As part of the 5 Million Lives partnership, IHI will be a regular contributor to ACHE's magazine *Healthcare Executive* and develop educational sessions offered through ACHE.

“We are very grateful to ACHE for its partnership and commitment to help our nation make care safe – everywhere,” said Donald Berwick, MD, MPP, IHI's president and CEO. “Together we can, and we will, equip all willing healthcare providers with the tools they need to make the motto, ‘First, do no harm,’ a reality.”

Hospitals commit to implement between one and 12 of the following interventions as part of their participation in the 5 Million Lives Campaign:

- **Prevent Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus Aureus* (MRSA) infection...**by reliably 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 reliably implementing the changes in care recommended by the Surgical Care Improvement Project (SCIP)
- **Prevent pressure ulcers...**by reliably 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 far more effective in accelerating the improvement of care
- **Deploy Rapid Response Teams...**at the first sign of patient decline – and before catastrophic cardiac or respiratory event

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- **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, the Rx 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 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.

The American College of Healthcare Executives is an international professional society of more than 30,000 healthcare executives who lead hospitals, healthcare systems and other healthcare organizations. ACHE is known for its prestigious credentialing and educational programs and its annual Congress on Healthcare Leadership, which draws more than 4,000 participants each year. ACHE is also known for its journals, the *Journal of Healthcare Management* and *Frontiers of Health Services Management* and its magazine, *Healthcare Executive*, as well as ground-breaking research and career development and public policy programs. ACHE's publishing division, Health Administration Press, is one of the largest publishers of books and journals on all aspects of health services management in addition to textbooks for use in college and university courses. Through such efforts, ACHE works toward its goal of being the premier professional society for healthcare leaders by providing exceptional value to its members.

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