

KANSAS • HEALTHCARE
COLLABORATIVE

July 30, 2010

Dear Administrator/CEO:

The Kansas Healthcare Collaborative (KHC), in partnership with the Kansas Hospital Association (KHA) and the Kansas Medical Society (KMS) is pleased to announce the opportunity for Kansas Hospitals to participate in a groundbreaking national safety program to reduce central line associated blood stream infections (CLABSI) in hospital units using the Comprehensive Unit-based Safety Program (CUSP). CUSP is transforming care and patient safety in hospital units by improving patient safety culture and practices.

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), approximately 250,000 central line associated blood stream infections occur in the United States each year. An estimated 30,000-62,000 patients die as a result of these infections, and the cost to the health care system is about \$25,000 per episode. Demonstrated by the Michigan Keystone ICU Project nearly 6 years ago, these infections are largely preventable. Over 100 Michigan ICUs participated in the project and the results demonstrated a decrease in the median infection rate from 2.7 per 1000 catheter days at baseline to zero at three months after implementation. The benefit from the initiative was sustained resulting in a 66% reduction in CLABSI at the end of the two-year study period. Participating ICUs continue to sustain their improvements, saving thousands of lives and millions of dollars each year.

On the CUSP: STOP BSI is a two-year initiative of the Health Research and Educational Trust (HRET) of the American Hospital Association (AHA), in partnership with the John Hopkins University Quality and Safety Research Group and the Michigan Health and Hospital Association's Keystone Center for Patient Safety and Quality (Keystone Center). The project is funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

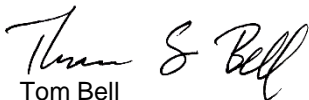
Kansas On the CUSP: STOP BSI project goals are to eliminate, or at least reduce, CLABSI rates to no more than one infection per 1000 catheter days at the end of two years, and to improve safety culture on hospital units. There is no charge for hospital teams to participate in the two-year On the CUSP: STOP BSI program. Each participating hospital will learn how to apply the CUSP program and CLABSI reduction tools, receive tools for measuring CLABSI and safety culture in units, receive ongoing support through monthly calls, have access to expert faculty for conference calls and face-to-face meetings and receive a detailed CUSP operation manual.

The Kansas Healthcare Collaborative will facilitate the implementation of this initiative in Kansas.

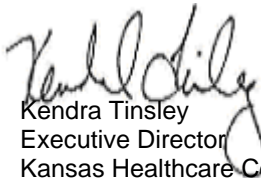
We strongly encourage you to join us in this important initiative to enhance the health and safety of patients.

For questions or to register your hospital, please contact Tonya Crawford at 785-235-0763 or tcrawford@khconline.org or visit the KHC Web site at www.khconline.org.

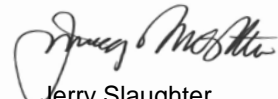
Sincerely yours,



Tom Bell
President
Kansas Hospital Association



Kendra Tinsley
Executive Director
Kansas Healthcare Collaborative



Jerry Slaughter
Executive Director
Kansas Medical Society