



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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January 16, 2017

KFMC and KHC Receive Awards for Healthcare Quality Improvement Work from Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Topeka, Kan. – On December 13, 2016, The Kansas Foundation for Medical Care, Inc. (KFMC) and the Kansas Healthcare Collaborative (KHC) each received awards for their work in reducing excessive hospital readmissions and hospital-acquired infections over the past five years. The awards were presented at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) annual Quality Conference in Baltimore, Maryland.

KFMC and KHC were honored to receive the awards, sponsored by the [National Partnership for Patients Initiative](#), for “Diligent work, authentic collaboration with patients, clinicians and partners and unprecedented national impact on patient safety in all U.S. hospitals.” The Partnership for Patients Initiative claims success of 87,000 lives saved; 2.1 million fewer patient harms and \$19.8 billion in cost savings to date. The National Partnership for Patients Initiative was created by CMS leaders, Dr. Paul McGann, Dennis Wagner, and Jean D. Moody-Williams.

“The Kansas Foundation for Medical Care is honored to receive this award from CMS for the work that we do on behalf of Medicare patients in our state and region. We will continue to partner with healthcare providers, stakeholders and business partners in Kansas and regionally to improve health and health outcomes for patients,” said KFMC President and Chief Executive Officer Karen Braman, RPh, MS.

“Kansas Healthcare Collaborative appreciates this recognition of our work in partnership with Kansas hospitals,” said KHC Executive Director Kendra Tinsley, MS, CPPS. “Through patient-centered, quality improvement efforts that include services at no charge, resources and expertise for medical professionals, we will continue to help hospitals make health care safer by reducing the number of health care-acquired conditions and preventable readmissions, which will ultimately reduce the cost of health care, too.”

KFMC is a member of the Great Plains Quality Innovation Network (QIN), the Quality Innovation Network-Quality Improvement Organization (QIN-QIO) serving Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota

and South Dakota. Great Plains QIN partners with healthcare providers and communities to implement data-driven quality initiatives to improve healthcare.

KFMC offers technical assistance, tailored education, best practices, tools and resources to providers and clinicians at **NO COST**. Healthcare providers, patients, and other stakeholders are highly encouraged to participate in our Learning and Action Networks (LANs). Topics include cardiac care, diabetic care, healthcare infections, medication safety, nursing home improvement, cancer prevention and Health Information Technology (HIT). Recently, antibiotic stewardship and the misuse of opioid drug LANs were added. For more information about KFMC, visit the website at kfmc.org.

KHC is a nonprofit organization dedicated to transforming health care through patient-centered initiatives that improve quality, safety and value. Formed in 2008, KHC acts as a resource to enhance the care Kansans receive by engaging and aligning with providers to continually improve health care quality and patient outcomes. For more information about KHC, visit the website at khconline.org.



Left to right: CMS leaders Dr. Paul McGann, Chief Medical Officer for Quality Improvement; Jean Moody-Williams, Deputy Director, Center for Clinical Standards and Quality; KFMC team members Kaitlin Nolte; Sarah Good, Director of Quality Improvement; Megan Skaggs; Nadyne Hagmeier, RN; Tisha Carlson; Dana Thompson; Karen Braman, Chief Executive Officer; and CMS leader Dennis Wagner, Director, Quality Improvement and Innovation Group. Each CMS official was recently honored with the prestigious Federal Employee of the Year Award, one of the Samuel J Heyman Service to America Medals, otherwise known as the Sammies.

About Kansas Foundation for Medical Care

The Kansas Foundation for Medical Care (KFMC) is a not-for-profit organization focused on improving healthcare quality. KFMC is a member of the Great Plains Quality Innovation Network, the Quality Innovation Network-Quality Improvement Organization (QIN-QIO) for Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota. KFMC is also the Regional Extension Center (REC) and External Quality Review Organization (EQRO) for the state of Kansas. In addition, we contract with many private companies to provide health information technology (HIT) consulting services, quality improvement and review services. Throughout various contracts, our role is to work with healthcare providers and organizations to develop ways to improve the use of HIT and the quality of healthcare provided to all Kansas healthcare consumers. To learn more, visit kfmc.org.

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