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**Texas Hospital Association's Texas Center for Quality & Patient Safety
Awarded \$3.4 Million to Improve Hospital Care and Patient Safety**

AUSTIN – The Texas Center for Quality & Patient Safety, part of the Texas Hospital Association's family of companies, is one of 26 organizations nationwide that will receive funding from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' Innovation Center to help hospitals make health care safer and less costly by reducing health care acquired conditions and preventable readmissions. The TCQPS was awarded \$3.4 million over two years to work with 150 Texas hospitals, offering education, technical assistance, and establishment and implementation of a system to track and monitor hospital progress in meeting quality improvement goals.

On Dec. 14, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced that \$218 million is being awarded through the Partnership for Patients initiative, a nationwide public-private collaboration involving state, regional, national or hospital system organizations. As Hospital Engagement Networks, these organizations will help identify solutions already working to reduce health care acquired conditions, and work to spread them to other hospitals and health care providers.

"The Texas Center for Quality and Patient Safety is pleased to partner with CMS in this project that will disseminate and replicate the best evidence-based ways to improve patient care. In the past two years, TCQPS has reduced infections and improved patient outcomes for hospitals participating in three initiatives, and we look forward to working with even more hospitals to make a positive difference for patients," said Mitzi Ressmann, RN, FACHE, TCQPS executive director.

"TCQPS has worked with small to mid-size hospitals, and it's important that we continue to reach out to these hospitals so that every Texan – regardless of where they live – gets optimal patient care," Ressmann said.

As a hospital engagement contractor, TCQPS will work with the hospitals it recruits to participate in the Partnership for Patients to reduce the number of hospital-acquired conditions by 40 percent and reduce hospital readmissions by 20 percent by the end of 2013.

Achieving the Partnership for Patients' objectives nationally would mean approximately 1.8 million fewer injuries to patients in the hospital, saving more than 60,000 lives over three years, and would mean more than 1.6 million patients would recover from illness without suffering a preventable complication requiring re-hospitalization.

For more information, visit the [Partnership for Patients](#) and [Texas Center for Quality & Patient Safety](#) websites.

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About the Texas Center for Quality and Patient Safety

The Texas Center for Quality & Patient Safety, formed in 2010 as an affiliate of the Texas Hospital Association, brings together hospitals, state and national patient safety experts, and evidence-based best practices to improve patient safety and reduce costs by enhancing the quality of care delivered. Learn more at www.texashospitalquality.org.

About the Texas Hospital Association

Founded in 1930, the Texas Hospital Association is the leadership organization and principal advocate for the state's hospitals and health care systems. Based in Austin, THA enhances its members' abilities to improve accessibility, quality and cost-effectiveness of health care for all Texans. One of the largest hospital associations in the country, THA represents more than 85 percent of the state's acute-care hospitals and health care systems, which employ some 365,000 health care professionals statewide. Learn more about THA at www.tha.org or follow THA on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/texashospitals>.