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2,500 HOSPITALS HAVE JOINED IHI'S CAMPAIGN TO SAVE 100,000 LIVES THROUGH HEALTH CARE IMPROVEMENT

*The Campaign is One of the Largest Health Care Quality Improvement Efforts Ever
Undertaken in the U.S.*

Cambridge, MA – August 1, 2005 – The Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) announced today that over 2,500 acute care hospitals in the United States have now joined its Campaign to save 100,000 lives. The Campaign encourages hospitals to adopt proven practices and procedures that can dramatically improve patient care and is the first-ever national campaign to promote saving a specified number of lives by a certain date (June 2006). At current enrollment numbers, the Campaign has become one of the largest health care quality improvement efforts ever undertaken in the U.S.

The 2,500 hospitals are located in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. A list of participating hospitals and hospital systems is available at www.ihl.org.

“The 100,000 Lives Campaign has captured the good will and intentions of American hospitals at a rate and in sheer numbers we could never have predicted,” said Donald M. Berwick, MD, MPP, President and CEO of IHI. “When over 2500 hospitals decide to improve at the same time, it really is possible to see how proven, life-saving medical practices can become the norm in hospital care. We're now starting to hear about early successes with the six interventions, and we look forward to sharing the progress of this initiative in the weeks and months ahead. It's also never too late to enroll.”

Hospitals that choose to participate in the Campaign commit to implementing some or all of the following six quality improvement changes:

- **Deploy Rapid Response Teams** – by allowing any staff member, regardless of position in the chain of command, to call upon a specialty team to examine a patient at the first sign of decline;
- **Deliver Reliable Evidence-Based Care for Acute Myocardial Infarction** – by consistently delivering key measures -- including early administration of aspirin and beta-blockers – that prevent patient deaths from heart attack;
- **Prevent Adverse Drug Events** – by implementing medication reconciliation, which requires that a list of all of a patient's medications (even for unrelated illnesses) be compiled and reconciled to ensure that the patient is given (or prescribed) the right medications at the correct dosages -- at admission, discharge and before transferring a patient to another care unit;
- **Prevent Central Line Infections** – by consistently delivering five interdependent, scientifically grounded steps collectively called the “Central Line Bundle”;

- **Prevent Surgical Site Infections** – by reliably delivering the correct perioperative care, maintaining glucose levels and avoiding shaving hair at the surgical site;
- **Prevent Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia** – by implementing five interdependent, scientifically grounded steps collectively called the “Ventilator Bundle” – such as elevating the head of the hospital bed to between 30 and 45 degrees – thereby dramatically reducing mortality and length of stay in the Intensive Care Unit.

To help hospitals implement the interventions, the 100,000 Lives Campaign has created a vibrant network of field offices throughout the country. These so-called Nodes, many of them hospital associations and quality improvement organizations (QIOs), now exist in almost every state and promise to provide a lasting infrastructure for patient safety and improved care. This summer and fall will be marked by a number of rallies and learning sessions sponsored by the Campaign’s Nodes.

Hospitals can learn more about the Campaign’s Nodes, national partners, proven life-saving improvement methods, and how to enroll at: <http://www.ihl.org/IHI/Programs/Campaign/>. IHI also invites the media and hospitals to learn about upcoming Campaign events and informational calls on the website.

For more information or to speak with someone at IHI or a participating hospital in your area, contact Danielle Rhoades at (212) 576-2700 x 242 or Allison Aldrich at (212) 576-2700 x 241.

The Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) is a not-for-profit organization leading the improvement of health care throughout the world. Founded in 1991 and based in Cambridge, MA, IHI is a catalyst for change, cultivating innovative concepts for improving patient care and implementing programs for putting those ideas into action. Thousands of health care providers, including many of the finest hospitals in the world, participate in IHI’s groundbreaking work. (www.ihl.org)

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