FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Donald Berwick, MD, leader in health care quality improvement, inducted as honorary member of Honor Society of Nursing

BALTIMORE — The Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International, inducted Donald M. Berwick, MD, MPP, FRCP, president and chief executive officer, Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI), as an honorary member during a special ceremony at the honor society’s biennial convention, held 3-7 November in Baltimore.

Berwick is one of the nation’s leading authorities on health care quality and improvement issues. He is clinical professor of pediatrics and health care policy at the Harvard Medical School. Berwick has served as vice chair of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, as the first “independent member” of the board of trustees of the American Hospital Association and as chair on the National Advisory Council of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. An elected member of the Institute of Medicine (IOM), Berwick serves on the IOM’s governing council. He also served on President Clinton’s Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Healthcare Industry.

“Dr. Berwick’s career-long commitment to bringing together health care professionals to influence delivery settings has resulted in nursing leadership excellence in practice, administration and academia and has improved patient experience and outcomes,” said honor society Past-President Carol Picard, RN, PhD, CS. “We are delighted to induct Dr. Berwick as an honorary member of Sigma Theta Tau International. His endeavors to improve quality and safety have greatly impacted the health of people worldwide.”

The honor society board of directors bestows honorary membership to individuals throughout the world who are not eligible for regular membership but have demonstrated superior contributions to the advancement of nursing and health care at the national or international levels.

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The Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to improve the health of people worldwide through leadership and scholarship in practice, education and research. Founded in 1922, the Honor Society of Nursing has inducted more than 345,000 members. Members are active in 119 countries and include practicing nurses, instructors, researchers, policymakers, entrepreneurs and others. The honor society’s 451 chapters are located at 535 institutions of higher education throughout the United States, as well as Australia, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Ghana, Hong Kong, Japan, Kenya, Malawi, Mexico, the Netherlands, Pakistan, Singapore, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Swaziland, Sweden, Taiwan and Tanzania.