FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Lisa Rinkus
LJPR
617/965-9847
lj-pr@attbi.com

INDUSTRY LEADERS MEET TO SET AGENDA FOR IMPACT, THE INSTITUTE FOR HEALTHCARE IMPROVEMENT’S NEW NETWORK FOR IMPROVING HEALTH CARE QUALITY WORLDWIDE

BOSTON, Mass., May 30, 2002 – The Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) has launched IMPACT, a new improvement network to improve the way health care is delivered. At a conference today in Boston, IHI president and CEO Donald M. Berwick, MD, MPP, kicked off IMPACT, along with several industry leaders and more than 50 charter member organizations that have already signed on as participants.

According to Dr. Berwick, “For years, people have been asking about how to join the Institute for Healthcare Improvement. Up until this point, we’ve only offered projects for them to participate in. Now we’re offering IMPACT, the strongest possible network for support, learning and exchange that we can build. It offers the health care community a chance to join IHI in its mission to improve health care for all.”

During today’s launch meeting, charter members worked with IHI to help shape the priorities of the new IMPACT organization. IMPACT member organizations will work in the critical areas of patient safety, critical care, workforce development, chronic care, office redesign, and access and flow.

According to IHI’s Maulik Joshi, Dr.P.H., director of the new network, “IMPACT
is a network of change-oriented health care organizations that are joining the improvement movement at a new level of ambition, scale, persistence and transparency. What distinguishes IMPACT is that it will tackle both leadership and front-line improvement topics across the entire organization. With the expertise and guidance from IHI’s faculty members, IMPACT will provide a potent framework for taking action and achieving breakthrough improvements.”

Enrollment in IMPACT is now open to health care organizations throughout the world. Collaboration and making a significant commit to dramatically improving patient outcomes are the cornerstones of IMPACT membership.

For more information, contact IHI at (888) 320-6937, visit www.ihi.org or email impact@ihi.org.

Founded in 1991, the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) is an independent, non-profit organization based in Boston, Mass. IHI is dedicated to improving the quality of health care systems through education, research and demonstration projects and by fostering collaboration among organizations and their leaders. IHI projects extend throughout the U.S. and abroad.