



Alliance for Pediatric Quality

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Alliance for Pediatric Quality Joins in Movement for Transformative Healthcare Reform

Alliance delivers pediatric quality improvement and data standards for child health as part of National Priorities Partnership

Chapel Hill, N.C. (Nov. 17, 2008) – As a leading member of a coalition of 28 major national organizations representing those who receive, pay for, deliver and evaluate healthcare, the Alliance for Pediatric Quality (Alliance) joined today in unveiling a comprehensive agenda to transform healthcare.

The Alliance is one of 28 organizations that compose the National Priorities Partnership. By working together, this coalition has the power to deliver transformative improvements to America's health and healthcare system.

The Partnership's improvement agenda includes six "National Priorities" that target reform in ways that will eliminate harm, eradicate disparities, reduce disease burden, and remove waste to provide world-class, patient-centered, affordable healthcare.

"There is broad consensus among Americans that healthcare needs real change. We must capitalize on this opportunity to improve safety and effectiveness and eliminate waste," said Partnership co-chair and National Committee for Quality Assurance president Margaret O'Kane. "The Partnership represents unprecedented consensus -- we have brought the right players together at the right time to effect positive, meaningful change."

"No one organization alone can bring about the changes our healthcare system so badly needs," said Marlene Miller, the Alliance's representative to NPP and Vice Chair, Quality and Safety Initiatives for Johns Hopkins Children's Center, and Chief Medical Officer for the National Association of Children's Hospitals and Related Institutions. "Through the collaboration of the NPP, we can really affect change in areas such as safety, health information technology and patient-centered care, all of which are critical to overall quality improvement."

Earlier this year, the Alliance endorsed four quality improvement initiatives that successfully reduced bloodstream infection rates, increased life expectancy among cystic fibrosis patients and improved chronic care for children with asthma and inflammatory bowel disease. The Alliance also plays a leadership role in aligning the pediatric community on a common strategy to improve health information technology for children. Last month, the Certification Commission on Health Information Technology (CCHIT) announced Alliance-influenced Child Health Certification criteria for electronic health records (EHRs) used in ambulatory settings.



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"The key is focusing on the right places in our vast and fragmented 'system' where we can achieve the greatest dividends for patients and their families. If leveraged strategically, increments of improvement can accrue into transformational change and a much higher-performing healthcare system," said Janet Corrigan, president and CEO of the nonprofit National Quality Forum, which convened the National Priorities Partnership.

Read more: www.kidsquality.org

The Alliance for Pediatric Quality is a partnership of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP), Child Health Corporation of America (CHCA) and the National Association of Children's Hospitals and Related Institutions (NACHRI). Collectively these organizations represent more than 60,000 pediatricians and 200 children's hospitals.

The 28 National Priorities Partners represent key healthcare stakeholders, including: consumer groups, employers, government, health plans, healthcare alliances, healthcare professionals, scientists, accrediting and certifying bodies, and quality alliances. The Partners are: AARP, AFL-CIO, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, The Alliance for Pediatric Quality, America's Health Insurance Plans, American Board of Medical Specialties, American Nurses Association, AQA, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Certification Commission for Healthcare Information Technology, Consumers Union, Hospital Quality Alliance, Institute for Healthcare Improvement, Institute of Medicine, The Joint Commission, Leapfrog Group, National Association of Community Health Centers, National Business Group on Health, National Committee for Quality Assurance, National Governors Association, National Institutes of Health, National Partnership for Women & Families, National Quality Forum, Pacific Business Group on Health, Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and Quality Alliance Steering Committee.