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TWO MISSOURI HOSPITALS AWARDED EXCELLENCE IN SAFE CARE AWARDS BY MISSOURI CENTER FOR PATIENT SAFETY - Golden Valley and Truman Memorial Veterans Hospitals Recognized-

Jefferson City, MO -- May 7, 2012 -- Two Missouri hospitals have been recognized by Missouri Center for Patient Safety (MOCPS) with the fourth annual "Missouri Excellence in Safe Care" Award.

Becky Miller, Executive Director of MOCPS, announced Harry S. Truman Memorial Veterans Hospital in Columbia, MO and Golden Valley Memorial Hospital in Clinton, MO are being honored for their outstanding efforts to make a measurable difference in patient safety.

The "Missouri Excellence in Safe Care Awards" recognizes health care provider projects that increase patient safety in facilities across Missouri. Honorees are selected by MOCPS and a panel of independent health care industry experts.

"Safety in health care is our focus and we are pleased to acknowledge these exemplary initiatives," said Miller. "In addition, it is our objective to showcase best practices and provide a platform for organizations to share their success stories both here in Missouri and across the United States."

This year the judges singled out Golden Valley Memorial Hospital's **Patient Fall Reduction Initiative**. Golden Valley created a "Fall Team," which developed a multidisciplinary approach to reducing falls in the hospital setting.

The "Fall Team" program included a hospital-wide staff education program, introduction of measurement tools, the development of specific milestones and an employee recognition program. Since the program began in 2007, Golden Valley has continued to make remarkable progress each year.

Harry S. Truman Memorial Veterans Hospital is being honored for its **Sustaining Patient Safety Culture Through Leadership WalkRounds®**. The Harry S. Truman Memorial Veterans Hospital Executive Leadership Team implemented a program based upon the work of Dr. Allan S. Frankel, which included an education needs survey as part of the employee performance evaluation, development of targeted educational offerings and Executive Walk Rounds.

The Executive Walk Rounds allow the hospital's executives to lead staff by example in patient safety measures. The program yielded significant positive results in the 2009 and 2011 surveys.

The awardees joined many national and local speakers to present important patient safety topics to their peers at the Missouri Center for Patient Safety's 6th annual conference in April.

Daniel Simons, PhD., author of *The Invisible Gorilla* and Professor of Psychology at Beckman Institute of the University of Illinois, and Dorrie K. Fontaine, PhD., RN, FAAN from the University of Virginia and the American Academy of Critical Care Nurses, headlined the conference along with other key Missouri facilities and one health system.

About the Award

MOCPS developed the award in conjunction with a clinical and research committee to recognize best practices in patient safety. A panel of judges comprised of physicians, nurses, risk managers and researchers evaluates each provider's program. A second panel of three judges makes final recommendations.

Past awardees include:

- Citizens Memorial Healthcare
- Forest Park Hospital
- North Kansas City Hospital, Research Medical Center
- Saint Luke's Northland Hospital
- St. Johns Mercy Hospital
- St. Johns Regional Medical Center
- St. Louis Children's Hospital
- St. Mary's Health Center
- University of Missouri Health System
- University of Missouri-School of Medicine-Department of Internal Medicine.

About MOCPS

Missouri Center for Patient Safety (MOCPS) was founded by the Missouri Hospital Association, Missouri State Medical Association and Primaris in 2005 as a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to improving patient safety.

MOCPS focuses on improving the safety and health care in Missouri and serves as the hub and coordinator for health care providers, state agencies, insurers, and others with an interest in improving patient safety.

MOCPS actively shares information to support these goals on www.mocps.org, on Twitter @MOPatientSafety, Facebook and LinkedIn.