



For Immediate Release

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Contact: Patty Montone Charvat

charvat@chime.org, 203.294.7213

Connecticut Hospitals Reducing Healthcare-Associated Infections

(Wallingford, CT) - Connecticut hospitals are showing positive trends in reducing healthcare-associated infections, according to data released by the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) today.

DPH has posted hospital-specific reports of Central Line-Associated Bloodstream Infections (CLABSIs), on its [website](#). Since January 2008, hospitals in Connecticut have reported to DPH incidents of CLABSI, a specific type of healthcare-associated infection, which have previously been reported in the aggregate.

The DPH report reveals good news about Connecticut's hospitals: the state's hospitals in aggregate are in the category of "Better than expected," as compared to the national risk-adjusted Standard Infection Rate (SIR) used by the Centers for Disease Control to compare states, hospitals, and individual units to each other and to the national index. The DPH data offer a snapshot of hospital performance from October 2009 through September 2010.

Since 2009, Connecticut hospitals have been participating, through the CHA Patient Safety Organization, in a national project to eliminate CLABSI by implementing safety checklists, standardizing processes, identifying and mitigating defects, doing communication training, and improving the culture of safety.

"We are pleased that these data confirm that hospitals' ongoing focus on quality and patient safety are continuing to reduce infections among our patients," said Jennifer Jackson, CEO, Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA).

###

The Connecticut Hospital Association has been dedicated to serving Connecticut's hospitals since 1919. Through state and federal advocacy, CHA represents the interests of Connecticut's not-for-profit hospitals on key healthcare issues in the areas of quality and patient safety, access and coverage, workforce, public health, and hospital reimbursement.