

The Ohio Children's Hospital Quality Improvement Collaborative

Why an Ohio Quality Improvement Collaborative?

Akron Children's Hospital, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital (Cleveland), Columbus Children's Hospital, Dayton Children's Hospital, and Toledo Children's Hospital, comprising the Ohio Children's Hospital Association, entered into a quality improvement collaborative in June of 2006.

In recent years, individual hospitals have pursued a range of new efforts to improve quality of care at their institutions. Some have acted entirely independently; others have joined national collaborative efforts on defined quality of care projects. In so doing, key leaders initiated discussions among their peers about the potential value of collaborating with each other in Ohio, where geographic proximity and established cooperative relationships could support significant progress. Leaders also began discussing the need to broaden the association's priorities to embrace efforts to promote improved quality of care at children's hospitals and, eventually, all Ohio hospitals providing care to children.



Ohio Children's Hospital Association

Progress is a healthy child

What's the Immediate Goal?

At a Quality Summit in June of 2006, clinical and administrative leaders from Ohio's six regional children's hospitals met to consider a number of options. The hospital leaders agreed to achieve the following *initial* goal:

“Working collaboratively, Ohio's children's hospitals will decrease the number of preventable codes [cardiac or respiratory arrests] per 1,000 inpatient days outside the ICU by 50% by the fall of 2007 through the implementation of medical (rapid) response teams (or their equivalent).”

Under the auspices of the Ohio Children's Hospital Association, its member hospitals intend to work together based upon the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) collaborative model, modified to permit flexibility in the definition and use of the change package.

Recognizing the association's limited expertise and infrastructure to support the operation of the collaborative project, OCHA has contracted with the Ohio Hospital Association to provide data management, facilitation, and quality improvement guidance for the project.

Are There Other Benefits?

Ohio's children's hospitals will accomplish several broad objectives with the project:

1. Improve quality of care delivered at Ohio's children's hospitals as measured against a credible benchmark.
2. Develop new and sustainable long-term capacities for working collaboratively to improve quality of care and patient safety on a range of measures.
3. Demonstrate to policymakers that Ohio's children's hospitals are willing and able to be held accountable for outcomes and that they are champions of quality improvement.



At Children's Hospitals,
It's What Matters Most!