



Two federal government agencies charged with reporting patient safety and quality of care data have recognized the 88 hospitals participating in the Tennessee Hospital Association's (THA) Hospital Improvement and Innovation Network (HIIN) for saving lives and billions of healthcare dollars.

As part of a nationwide effort, the facilities helped prevent 20,500 hospital deaths and saved \$7.7 billion in healthcare costs from 2014 to 2017, according to new data released by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

AHRQ's preliminary analysis estimates hospital-acquired conditions (HACs) were reduced by 910,000 from 2014 to 2017. The estimated rate of HACs dropped 13 percent. Under THA's leadership, the 88 facilities are participants in the CMS Partnership for Patients' HIIN under the American Hospital Association's (AHA) Health Research Education Trust (HRET).

"We are extremely pleased and appreciate the efforts of our Tennessee Center for Patient Safety team in its efforts to help our hospitals improve their patient outcomes. Tennessee hospitals are working together through this collaborative program to share best practices and continue to strive to make their facilities the safest places for care," said Craig A. Becker, president and CEO of the Tennessee Hospital Association.

"Tennesseans should be very comfortable knowing their local hospitals are working hard to provide the best possible care," said Becker.

"CMS is delivering on improving quality and safety at America's hospitals," said CMS Administrator Seema Verma in a national news release "Our work isn't done, and we will continue our efforts to hold providers accountable for delivering results."

About THA: The Tennessee Hospital Association was founded in 1938 and serves as an advocate for hospitals, health systems and other healthcare organizations across the state. The initiatives of THA support the efforts of Tennessee's hospitals to ensure high quality care for the patients and communities they serve.