



Charlotte Hungerford Hospital

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April 24, 2014

*Richard Melchreit, MD
HAI Coordinator
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06134*

Dear Dr. Melchreit,

Patient safety is the top priority of Charlotte Hungerford Hospital. We are dedicated to providing the best quality care to patients and reducing the incidence of hospital-acquired infections. Charlotte Hungerford Hospital is working on many fronts to achieve this goal. Likewise, we use many sources to test and measure our practices including the Joint Commission and data gleaned from "Hospital Compare".

New initiatives to protect patients at Charlotte Hungerford Hospital include replacing patient care equipment which help prevent infection, working with staff to discontinue invasive therapies as soon as clinically indicated, introducing an exciting antimicrobial copper project to replace high touch surfaces with antimicrobial copper proven to decrease microorganisms, and many other initiatives. Though our data shows improvement in our rates in 2013, we will continue to find new and innovative ways to engage our staff and patients to address all opportunities to reduce these infections as we strive to achieve a zero infection rate.

For this year, Charlotte Hungerford Hospital is also working with our HEN on a Partnership for Patients project to engage patients and families in this infection prevention goal. We are also continuing our work with The Center for Transforming Healthcare with our hand hygiene program.

Additionally, we are working collaboratively with CHA to continuously improve care, along with other key stakeholders including DPH, Qualidigm, and most recently CMS on its national "Partnership for Patients" patient safety initiative.

Because healthcare-associated infections occur across the continuum of care, we are also participating in the CDC's Emerging Infections Program (EIP) through the DPH's HAI Division. Through this program, we are focused on reducing central line-associated bloodstream infections, C. difficile, MRSA, and multiple drug-resistant organisms.

Simply put, we believe that any infection is one too many, and Charlotte Hungerford Hospital will not be satisfied until we get to zero HAIs.

Sincerely,

*Daniel J. McIntyre
President & Executive Director*