



# Quest Physician Update

September 2011



Gail Amundson, MD, FACP  
CEO, Quality Quest for Health of Illinois

## Transforming Healthcare- Together.

Dear Colleagues,

This month, HHS announced a national *Million Hearts*™ initiative to prevent 1 million heart attacks and strokes over the next five years.

Heart disease and stroke are two of the leading causes of death in the United States. *Million Hearts* brings together communities, health systems, nonprofit organizations, federal agencies, and private-sector partners from across the country to fight heart disease and stroke.

Quality Quest's Preventing Heart Attacks and Strokes initiative and our Registries project establish the foundation for our region to deliver results.

On a related note, a NEJM study by lead author Randy Cebul M.D., Director, Better Health Greater Cleveland, published this month reported that electronic health records (EHR), in a region with public reporting, helped practices get impressive results for ALL patients with diabetes. Nearly 44 percent of patients in EHR practices received care that met all endorsed standards. Only 16 percent of patients at paper-based practices received this same level of care. The study involved more than 500 primary care doctors in 46 practices.

Central Illinois is ahead of the curve on EHR use as the Central Illinois Health Information Exchange (CIHIE) enters its testing phase. We have what it will take to save hearts in central Illinois.

### 'Q' Award

The recipient of the 2011 Q Award is the Health Information Exchange Executive Advisory Council. This dedicated group of 30 volunteers fostered collaboration and support among many stakeholders in 20 counties. Their hard work translated into the creation of the Central Illinois Health Information Exchange in 2011.

The regional co-chairs from the Champaign, Decatur, Bloomington, and Peoria areas accepted the award on behalf of the entire Executive Council.

Respectfully,



Left to right: Dr. Michael Zia, Decatur Memorial Hospital; Awais Vaid, Champaign-Urbana Public Health Department; Kathy Isaac, Dr. John Warner Hospital; Jim Schreiner, Graham Hospital. Not pictured: Jim Runyon, Easter Seals; Frank Waterstraat, Illinois State University; Diane Genthner, Provena Health; and Dr. Maria Granzotti, HSHS St. Mary's Hospital, Decatur.

