



2009

The American Board of Pediatrics

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Mr. Richard D. Cordova, FACHE, MBA
President and Chief Executive Officer
Childrens Hospital Los Angeles
4650 Sunset Boulevard, Mailstop #1
Los Angeles, CA 90027

Dear Mr. Cordova,

February 27, 2009

The American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) commends Childrens Hospital Los Angeles for your work improving care for patients in your Cystic Fibrosis Center and pediatric intensive care unit.

Dr. Arnold Platzker leads your hospital's team in the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation's (CFF) QI Collaborative. The CFF program to instill best practices and build improvement capabilities at cystic fibrosis care centers has demonstrated dramatic gains in life expectancy for people with CF, which rose eight years between 1999 and 2006 – from age 29 to age 37.

Dr. Barry Markovitz leads your hospital's team in the NACHRI Bloodstream Infection (BSI) Collaborative for pediatric intensive care units. The BSI collaborative has achieved sustained 45% reductions in infection rates over the past 2 years, translating to 73 lives saved, more than 600 infections prevented, and \$21 million saved. Every month, these numbers grow.

These accomplishments merit special recognition because these QI Collaboratives have been exceptionally effective at improving care. That is one of the reasons why the Alliance for Pediatric Quality, our partnership with other national pediatric organizations, has recognized these QI Collaboratives in our Improve First campaign. It is also why the ABP has approved these QI Collaboratives for maintenance of certification credit⁶.

Achieving and sustaining improvements in patient care and outcomes are paramount, but participation in these QI Collaboratives benefits your hospital in many other ways, such as:

- Achieving improvements faster.
- Implementing what works, skipping the trial and error.
- Avoiding costs of design and development.
- Reducing your investment (and increasing your value) through cost sharing.

⁶ 2008 and 2009 CFF QI Collaboratives are approved for maintenance of certification credit.

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Mr. Richard D. Cordova, FACHE, MBA

- Pooling data with other sites, so you overcome the limitations of rare events and small sample sizes.
- Coaching from world class faculty and experts.
- Expanding QI capacity in your institution.
- Developing effective multidisciplinary teams.
- Facilitating the work of physicians who are engaged and committed, with new opportunities to participate in defining best practices, discovering new knowledge, and authorship credit for publications.
- Accessing rich, timely clinical information through project-supported information systems, with nothing for your institution to install or maintain.
- Satisfying training requirements for fellows, and maintenance of certification requirements for diplomates.

We salute your physicians and staff as national leaders in pediatric care and quality improvement. Your leadership support is essential to their continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James A. Stockman III". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

James A. Stockman III M.D.
President and CEO

CC: Roberta G. Williams MD