

*Ukiah Valley
Medical Center*



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**UKIAH VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER IMPROVES PATIENT CARE
AND PREVENTS UNNECESSARY DEATHS AND ILLNESS
AS PART OF A NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO SAVE 100,000 LIVES**

Ukiah Valley Medical Center (UVMC) announced today that after 12 months of participation in the Institute for Healthcare Improvement's landmark 100,000 Lives Campaign, they are dramatically improving how patients are cared for when they're most at risk for infection, complications and adverse outcomes. Initially launched in December of 2004, the 100,000 Lives Campaign is the first-ever national campaign to promote saving a specified number of lives in hospitals by a certain date (June 14, 2006) through the implementation of proven, evidence-based, practices and procedures.

UVMC has implemented or is in the process of implementing the following practices which will achieve the subsequent results:

- **Activate a Rapid Response Team** at the first sign that a patient's condition is worsening and may lead to a more serious medical emergency.
- **Prevent patients from dying of heart attacks** by delivering evidence-based care, including appropriate administration of aspirin to prevent blood clots and Beta blockers to prevent further heart attacks.
- **Prevent medication errors** by ensuring that accurate and continually updated lists of patients' medications are referenced during their hospital stay, particularly at transition points.
- **Prevent patients who are receiving medicines and fluids through central lines from developing infections** by following five steps, including proper hand washing and cleaning the patient's skin with "chlorhexidine" (a type of soap).
- **Prevent patients undergoing surgery from developing infections** by following a series of steps, including the timely administration of antibiotics.
- **Prevent patients on ventilators from developing pneumonia** by following four steps, including raising the head of the patient's bed between 30 and 40 degrees.

The accomplishments of the 100,000 Lives Campaign nationally include the enrollment of over 3,000 hospitals – comprising an estimated 85 percent of the acute care hospital beds in the country –

and the creation of a national infrastructure of campaign field offices that offer resources and support to participating hospitals throughout the US.

UVMC President and CEO Mark E. LaRose said, “We are delighted to be part of this exciting program. There is no doubt that the 100,000 lives campaign has had a huge impact on the country and I’m proud our hospital was part of this historic program.”

“Hospitals are not only demonstrating a dedication to saving lives during the 100,000 Lives Campaign,” said Dr. Donald Berwick, President and CEO of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI). “They are also implementing important changes in health care delivery that will reduce preventable illness and death beyond the campaign’s June 2006 deadline.”

The 3,000 hospitals participating in the campaign are located in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Please visit www.ihl.org/campaign to learn more about the campaign or to see a full list of participating hospitals (by state). The 100,000 Lives Campaign is supported through unrestricted philanthropy from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, the Cardinal Health Foundation, the Colorado Trust, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, the Rx Foundation, Baxter International, the Blue Shield of California Foundation, and the Leeds Family Foundation. National aggregate case-mix data and analysis supporting the campaign’s “lives saved” calculation is generously provided, without restriction for use, by CareScience (a QUOVADX division) and Solucient.

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The Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) is a not-for-profit organization leading the improvement of health care throughout the world. Founded in 1991 and based in Cambridge, MA, IHI is a catalyst for change, cultivating innovative concepts for improving patient care and implementing programs for putting those ideas into action. Thousands of health care providers, including many of the finest hospitals in the world, participate in IHI’s groundbreaking work.

Ukiah Valley Medical Center is part of Adventist Health, a not-for-profit, faith-based health system operating in California, Hawaii, Oregon and Washington. Founded on the Seventh-day Adventist heritage of Christian health care, Adventist Health is comprised of 20 hospitals with more than 3,100 beds, 18,800 employees, numerous clinics and outpatient facilities, 16 home care agencies and three joint-venture retirement centers. For more information, visit www.uvmc.org or www.adventisthealth.org.