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A Moment For Patient Safety and Quality Health Care

By Herbert E. Cushing, MD

What are National Patient Safety Goals?

In July, the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) issued seven patient safety goals. Last month the first three were featured in *Scope*. The remaining four goals are outlined in this issue.

The Joint Commission evaluates and accredits more than 16,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States. An independent, not-for-profit organization, JCAHO is the nation's predominant standards-setting and accrediting body in health care. These goals will be effective for all accrediting organizations in 2004.

The following are examples of how you can help with patient safety:

Eliminate wrong-site, wrong-patient, wrong-procedure surgery.

- Create and use a preoperative verification process, such as a checklist, to confirm that appropriate documents (e.g., medical records, imaging studies) are available.
- Implement a process to mark the surgical site and involve the patient in the marking process.

Improve the safety of using infusion pumps.

- Ensure free-flow protection on all general-use and PCA (patient controlled analgesia) intravenous infusion pumps used in the organization.

Improve the effectiveness of clinical alarm systems.

- Implement regular preventive maintenance and testing of alarm systems.
- Assure that alarms are activated with appropriate settings and are sufficiently audible with respect to distances and competing noise within the unit.

Reduce the risk of health care-acquired infections.

- Comply with current CDC hand hygiene guidelines at www.cdc.gov/handhygiene/
- Manage as sentinel events all identified cases of unanticipated death or major permanent loss of function associated with a health care-acquired infection.

For more information, see

<http://www.jcaho.org/accredited+organizations/patient+safety/04+npsg/facts+about+the+04+npsg.htm>

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Eisenberg Memorial Lecture – Nov. 19

Michael D. Murray, PharmD, MPH and Thomas Inui, MD, MSc from Regenstrief Institute have been awarded the John M. Eisenberg Memorial Lectureship. The lectureship is named in honor of the late director of the Agency of Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ).

The lectureship will be presented at Medicine Grand Rounds from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., Nov. 19 at Wishard Memorial Hospital, Myers Auditorium by Richard Platt, MD., who is professor and chair of the Department of Ambulatory Care and Prevention, Harvard Medical School and Harvard Pilgrim Health Care.

Dr. Platt is a renowned epidemiologist with research interests aimed at improving the use, safety and effectiveness of drug therapies, using data from large health plans and other populations.

This lectureship has special meaning to the many IUSM faculty members who were colleagues and friends of John M. Eisenberg, MD, and admired him for his contributions to health services research and health economics. Dr. Eisenberg was committed to ensuring that patients had the highest quality

and safest health care possible. The award is provided under the auspices of the AHRQ Centers for Education and Research on Therapeutics (CERTs) program through an unrestricted educational grant from Pfizer, Inc..

The CERTs demonstration program is a national initiative to conduct research and provide education that advances the optimal use of therapeutics (i.e., drugs, medical devices and biological products). The program, which consists of seven centers and a coordinating center, is administered as a cooperative agreement by AHRQ, in consultation with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

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Showalter Trust Fund applications sought

Since 1975, the Indianapolis campus of IUSM has received research funding through gifts made possible from the Ralph W. and Grace M. Showalter Research Trust Fund. The areas of appropriate biomedical research eligible for funding are broad and described by the benefactors as “the type of medical research that is most likely to permanently benefit mankind.”

Applications for funding from the Ralph W. and Grace M. Showalter Research Trust will be reviewed by the Biomedical Research Committee at IUSM. Proposals will be reviewed in two stages. An initial review will select the most meritorious proposals for further discussion and ranking. The BRC will provide a ranking of the most meritorious proposals, which will be presented to the Showalter Trustees. Funding decisions are made by the Showalter Trustees.

Applications for funding beginning July 1, 2004, must be received by the Dean’s Office, School of Medicine, by **Jan. 5**. Submission of the original, 35 complete sets, and an Institutional Route Sheet are required.

Only current Indianapolis full-time faculty (non-visiting status) having a rank of assistant professor or assistant scientist are eligible to apply for funding from the Showalter Research Trust.

Funds awarded this year are expected to be fully expended in the 2004-05 fiscal year, or within the approved award period if longer than one (1) year. However, if there is a need to carry over award funds beyond the initial award period, procedures for a “no-cost” extension request may be obtained by contacting the Dean’s Office Grants Manager.

Note that the same proposal may not be submitted as both a Biomedical Research Grant and a Showalter Trust application. If eligible for both programs, the investigator is encouraged to submit to the Showalter Trust.

In addition, instructions and forms may be downloaded from the web at adminfinance.iusm.iu.edu/operations/srf.htm.

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IUSM had five Irwin Award recipients

Lynne McCranor was omitted from the list of IUSM recipients of the 2003 Glenn W. Irwin Jr., MD, Experience Excellence Award winners announced in the Nov. 3 issue of Scope.

She is a research associate and clinical research coordinator at the Glaucoma Research and Diagnostic Center in the Department of Ophthalmology. Her continuing efforts to put IUSM's best foot forward while assisting visiting medical dignitaries and foreign research fellows were recognized by the award.

The Irwin awards recognize faculty and staff members for service "above and beyond the call of duty." They were first established in 1984 as the IUPUI Experience Excellence Awards. At Dr. Irwin's retirement in 1986, the name of the award was changed to honor Dr. Irwin for the many significant contributions that he made to IUPUI.

Other 2003 IUSM Irwin Award winners were Rafat Abonour, MD, Mary Guerriero Austrom, PhD, Linda Hankins, MS, and Janice Walther.

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Last call for all Centennial Celebration orders

The IUSM Centennial Celebration Sale is winding down for the semester. All orders – including those for holiday gifts -- must be received by **Thursday, Nov. 20**.

Proceeds from the sales support two IUSM student groups: the American Medical Women's Association and Student National Medical Association.

Orders will be taken through the Centennial Website only at www.medicine.iu.edu/~centen/shop.php4. Merchandise will be shipped through the mail or special arrangements can be made with the SNMA treasurer Ada Booth for pick up of orders .

Questions regarding the Centennial sale can be forwarded to snma@iupui.edu or albooth@iupui.edu.

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Jam The Jaguars Bus food drive under way

The IUPUI campus is coming together to help feed the hungry during the Thanksgiving season. Several campus schools and organizations already have started collecting food to help Jam the Jaguars bus. Your help is needed to make this annual event a success. If you would like to get involved or to find out if there's a collection of food in your building, please contact Kelly Young, kryoung@iupui.edu, or call 274-7711.

The "jamming of the bus" will take place on Thursday, Nov. 20, and items will be delivered to various homeless shelters and food pantries around town. Bring your donation to University College Courtyard from noon-1 p.m. and help Jam the Bus.

Most needed items:

- Meals-in-a-can
- Canned fruits and vegetables
- Cereal
- Bread, rice and pasta
- Crackers
- Personal hygiene & household items, such as toothpaste, soap, shampoo and diapers

Benefiting charities:

- Christamore House
- Damien Center
- Dayspring Center
- Gleaners Food Bank
- Hawthorne Community Center
- Hispanic Center
- Julian Center
- Lighthouse Mission
- Wheeler Mission Ministries

Benefiting churches:

- Antioch Missionary Baptist
- Christ Emmanuel Missionary Church
- Holy Trinity Catholic Parish
- Tabernacle Presbyterian Church
- Washington Street Presbyterian Church

Fun events scheduled to help Jam the Jaguars Bus:

Donate a bag of canned good items Nov. 10-15 to the IUPUI Bookstores and receive a 15 percent discount on any one selected Jaguars imprinted gift or apparel (not valid with any other offer).

Donate and participate in the Student Foundation's Turkey Toss Nov. 11-

12, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., University College Courtyard. Donate \$1 or a canned good item to participate and qualify for great prizes.

Organize a food drive within your school, office or organization and set out boxes to collect food until Thursday, Nov. 20. E-mail kryoung@iupui.edu to add your site to the campus drop off list.

For more information about the Jam the Jaguars Bus Food Drive, contact Kelly Young, director of Community Outreach, 274-7711 or kryoung@iupui.edu, or visit www.iupui.edu/~extaff/prom/jamthejagbus.htm. Volunteers are also needed throughout the day on Nov. 20. To volunteer contact Lorrie Brown, coordinator of Student Life and Community Service, at commserv@iupui.edu.

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Tenth Annual Indiana Conference on Alzheimer's Disease

Dementia patients often have many illnesses in need of acute care, such as cardiac care, dialysis and diabetes management.

A half-day conference will provide professionals who work in acute care and chronic care settings with important information on how to manage dementia patients in their care.

When Dementia is Not the Only Diagnosis

Noon - 5 p.m., Nov. 12

Indianapolis Marriott East

The full-day of the conference was specifically designed for professionals working in dementia care.

Dementia Care: The Future is What We Make It

7:30 am – 4 pm, Nov. 13

Indianapolis Marriott East

For more information or to register, contact the Alzheimer's Association of Greater Indiana at 575-9620. Co-sponsor of the conference is the Indiana Alzheimer Disease Center at IUSM.

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November lectures for medical malpractice series

Lectures on medical malpractice topics will be from noon to 1 p.m. in Van Nuys Medical Science Building, room B26. These lectures are part of a continuing series.

Nov 13 – Richard M. Frankel, PhD, professor of medicine and geriatrics and senior research scientist at Regenstrief Institute, and Michael Weiner, MD, assistant professor of medicine and researcher at Regenstrief, “Disclosing Medical Errors and Improving Patient Safety”

Nov 20 – Eleanor D. Kinney, JD, Hall Render Professor of Law, co-director of the IU Center for Law and Health, “The Medical Liability Insurance Crisis and its Resolution”

This lecture series, which began in October, is sponsored by the Health Law Student Interest Group. CME credit is available.

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NICHD loan repayment program information

The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development of the National Institutes of Health, has announced the 2004 Extramural Loan Repayment Program for Contraception and Infertility Research (CIR-LRP).

For information, see grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-HD-04-001.html.

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Bootcamp for business hopefuls

Do you have a great potential product but don't know beans about starting a business? Consider attending the Indiana Entrepreneur Bootcamp Wednesday, Nov. 12, at the Indiana Convention Center, sponsored by the Central Indiana Corporate Partnership, Ice Miller and the Indiana Venture Center.

Speakers include executives of Garage Technology Ventures, including Garage president Bill Reichart and Garage founder Guy Kawasaki, author of the best selling book, Rules for Revolutionaries. Topics include financing, planning and pitching your business.

For more information go to www.IndianaBootcamp.org. For reservations call (317) 624-0628 ext 13.

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Honors

Carey Chisholm, MD, clinical professor of medicine, is the president-elect of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine. He directs the IU Combined Emergency Medicine-Pediatric Residency and the Indiana University Hospital-Methodist Hospital Emergency Medicine Residency programs. Dr. Chisholm currently serves on the Society's board of directors. SAEM is dedicated to the improvement of care for the acutely ill and injured patient through improvements in research and education. This is not the first leadership post Chisholm has held in his medical specialty. He is the former president of the Council of Emergency Medicine Residency Directors, from which he received a special award in 1998. He's also a past member of the board of directors for the Indiana chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians.

David Chun, MD, senior fellow in pediatric cardiology, tied for first place among the Young Investigator presentations at the recent Midwest Pediatric Cardiology Society meeting held in Rochester, Minn. He presented research on the usefulness of B-type natriuretic peptide (BNP), a cardiac hormone, for rejection surveillance in pediatric heart transplant patients.

Joseph Fitzgerald, MD, founding director of the Section of Pediatric Gastroenterology/Hepatology/Nutrition at Riley Hospital, received the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology/Hepatology/Nutrition's (NASPGHAN) first Leadership Award at its annual meeting in Montreal in October. The award recognizes excellence and service to the field.

David Heck, MD, professor of orthopaedic surgery, has been selected for membership in the American Orthopaedic Association, which signifies honor and accomplishment in orthopaedics as well as a commitment to active leadership in the specialty.

Eugene Helveston, MD, founding director of the pediatric ophthalmology program at IUSM and Riley Hospital, will be receiving the Outstanding Humanitarian Service Award from the American Academy of Ophthalmology at its annual meeting Nov. 15-18. He is being recognized for his many contributions to ophthalmology, and especially his dedication to pediatric eye care in poorly developed parts of the world. For more than 20 years, Dr. Helveston has been committed to volunteering for ORBIS International and his commitment to transferring skills and knowledge to help patients around the world led to the development of Cyber-Sight in 1999, a telemedicine consultation program.

The National Society for Histotechnology has named **Glenda Hoye**, BS, the Histotechnologist of the Year Award. The award recognizes outstanding dedication and service to the profession. She is director of the Histotechnology Program in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine.

Patricia Keener, MD, professor of clinical pediatrics, director of the Section of General and Community Pediatrics, associate chair of the Department of Pediatrics, and chief of pediatrics at Wishard Memorial Hospital, has been awarded the 2003 Bernadette Perham Award for Distinction in Medical Outreach by Ball State University. She was one of six to receive the award that honors women from Indiana whose careers are distinguished by the breadth and depth of their accomplishments in their respective fields.

Douglas McKeag, MD, MS, chair of family medicine, will be in Vietnam and Thailand Nov. 10-15 as the leader of the People to People Ambassador Sports Medicine Delegation. This delegation was founded by President Eisenhower in 1956 and has developed high-level professional exchanges to encourage dialogue with counterparts in other nations. Dr. McKeag will discuss: anti-inflammatory supplements, concussions, eating disorders, ethical considerations of injections, the female athlete, osteoarthritis and exercise, and sports ethics.

Kimberly Quaid, PhD, has been named to the Ethical, Legal and Social Implications of Human Genetics 1 Study Section, Center for Scientific Review, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Her term will end June 30, 2007. Members are selected for their demonstrated competence and achievement in their area of specialization. Dr. Quaid is a clinical professor of medical and molecular genetics.

Douglas Rex, MD, has been elected president of the American College of Gastroenterology. A professor of medicine, he directs the endoscopy program at IU Hospital. Dr. Rex will serve a one-year term as president of the ACG, an 8,000-member organization of physicians and researchers with the shared interest of caring for patients with digestive diseases. He was elected Oct. 13 at the College's annual meeting in Baltimore.

Riley Hospital for Children is the recipient of the Greek Orthodox Detroit Metropolis (formerly called diocese) of America National Philoptochos (friends of the poor) 2003 Children's Medical Fund Grant. Five hospitals have been selected for the awards which will help fund essential clinical programs at Riley.

Christopher Sweeney, MBBS, has received the Walther Cancer Institute's 2003 Collaborator of the Year Award. Dr. Sweeney, assistant professor of medicine, was honored at the Institute's annual dinner Nov. 6. The award honors a scientist or clinician who encourages and exemplifies the Institute's ideal of fostering collaboration and synergy within or between Walther's affiliated programs and institutions.

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This week on *Sound Medicine*

Tune in at noon, Saturday, Nov. 15, to *Sound Medicine*, the weekly radio program co-produced by IUSM and WFYI Public Radio (90.1 FM) in Indianapolis. The program is hosted by Barb Lewis. This week's co-host is David Crabb, MD.

Dr. Greg Wilson, director of the Indiana State Department of Health, discusses the findings in a recent report on cancer in Indiana. The ancient Indian culture that created the practice of yoga believed in a mind/body connection, and so does Dr. Herbert Benson of the Mind/Body Medical Institute at

Harvard University. Dr. Umesh Khot, a cardiologist with Indiana Heart Physicians at St. Francis Hospital, tells us about coronary heart disease. We discuss why traditional risk factors such as smoking, diabetes and high cholesterol, account for many more cases than genetics.

Archived editions of Sound Medicine, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at soundmedicine.iu.edu.

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Online IUSM calendars

A comprehensive listing on IUSM seminars, lectures and Grand Rounds can be accessed at www.medlib.iupui.edu/calendar. To place items on the Scientific Calendar, please forward them to Iona Sewell at imsewell@iupui.edu.

A Special Events Calendar for presentations, symposiums, conferences and other activities at IUSM can be found on the School's Web page at www.medicine.iu.edu. The calendar also can be accessed directly at webdb.iu.edu/iusm/scripts/calendar/instr.cfm.

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Submissions to Scope

Scope wants your news items.

The deadline for submission is 8:30 a.m. on Fridays. *Scope* is published electronically and sent to faculty, staff, students, and residents.

There are four easy ways to submit story ideas or information to *Scope*:

- fax the information to 278-8722
- e-mail the information to mhardin@iupui.edu
- mail the information to Mary Hardin, Z-7, Ste. 306, IUPUI
- paste your plain text message into *Scope* Web form on the IUSM faculty & staff page: <http://medicine.iu.edu/faculty>

Contributions submitted by e-mail should be forwarded in 12 point, plain text format. To keep the electronic version of *Scope* as streamlined as possible, only seminars and lectures of general or multidisciplinary interest will be included.

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