

Association News

NAHQ's 33rd Annual Educational Conference

Join more than 1,000 of your quality colleagues September 14–17, 2008, in sunny Phoenix, AZ, for NAHQ's 33rd Annual Educational Conference, "Collaboration: The Spark Behind Quality." Learn about the latest in educational trends and industry practices, and gain insight from top leaders in the quality field. This year's featured speakers are Karyn Buxman, MS RN CSP CPAE, of the Humor Lab, and Mark R. Chassin, MD MPP MPH, president of the Joint Commission. Highlighted events include

- the Town Hall Meeting
- a grand opening reception
- NAHQ Celebration: Making NAHQ Sparkle
- the Quality Forum
- 32 concurrent sessions, 8 paper sessions, and more than 40 poster presentations
- four preconference educational events
- a reception for first-time attendees
- three continental breakfasts and two box lunches.

Don't forget to take advantage of the opportunity to earn more than 15 continuing education hours. Visit www.nahq.org/conference to sign up today!

Smith to Attend Pacific Health Summit

NAHQ President Thomas M. Smith has been invited to attend the Pacific Health Summit in Seattle, WA, June 16–18, 2008. This year's summit, "The Global Nutrition Challenge: Getting a Healthy Start," will address the lack of nutrition in vulnerable world populations, as well as the emerging health threat of "too much of the wrong nutrition" in developed and developing countries. Each June, the summit brings together 250 top decision makers in science, policy, industry, medicine, and public health to discuss ways to obtain a healthier future through scientific advances and policies for the prevention, early detection, and early treatment of disease. Smith has also been invited to participate in the preconferences on quality healthcare in vulnerable nations.

Loose Represents NAHQ at WHO International Consultation Meeting

Serving as a representative of NAHQ, David Loose, MSN RN CNAA CPHQ, chair of the Healthcare Quality Certification Board, recently attended "Safe Surgery Saves Lives" International Consultation meeting of the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva, Switzerland. NAHQ was one of more than 100 international surgical, anesthesia, and nursing organizations that met to discuss safe surgery guidelines.

"A major part of the discussion was the *Surgical Safety Checklist* draft and [its] instructional manual," said Loose. The checklist comprises three parts: a "sign in" prior to induction of anesthesia, a "time out" prior to skin incision, and a "sign out" prior to the patient leaving the operating room. "The key principles in developing this checklist were simplicity, wide applicability, and measurability," Loose said. Most of the discussion centered on standardizing metrics to measure the impact of the checklist on surgical care outcomes. The checklist will be pilot-tested at eight sites—Amman, Jordan; Auckland,

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New Zealand; Ifakara, Tanzania; London, England; Manila, the Philippines; New Delhi, India; Seattle, WA; and Toronto, Canada—before a final draft is presented at a major launch event in Washington, DC, in June 2008.

Begun in October 2004, the World Alliance for Patient Safety raises awareness and political commitment to improve the safety of care and facilitate the development of patient safety policy and practice. For more information, visit www.who.int/patientsafety/en.

Product of the Month

Patient Safety: Principles and Practice

This valuable book provides readers with a foundation of theoretical knowledge regarding patient safety, along with evidence-based strategies for preventing errors. With the help of this book, clinicians and administrators will gain the skills and knowledge they need to develop safe patient practices in their organization. Key topics include innovative uses of technology, evidence-based best practices, and ways to effectively communicate with the public and patients about medical errors. The cost is \$65 for NAHQ members and \$85 for nonmembers. Visit www.association-office.com/NAHQ/etools/products/products.cfm to order today!

New Volunteers Join *Journal for Healthcare Quality's* Review Panel

Editor in Chief Joann Genovich-Richards announced in April that the *Journal for Healthcare Quality (JHQ)* recently welcomed 17 new reviewers to its peer review panel. New reviewers for nonresearch manuscripts are Patricia A. Cacolice-Hildebrand, Houston, TX; Barbara L. Duffy, Ormond Beach, FL; Jason Fogg, Memphis, TN; and Kathleen Mechler, Bryan, TX.

New members of the research review panel are Petra S. Berger, Salem, OR; Kathleen Tornow Chai, Santa Ana, CA; Cathy E. Duquette, Newport, RI; Marilyn A. Folcik, Hartford, CT; Lea Anne Gardner, Philadelphia, PA; Marilyn Kindred Harz, Garden Grove, CA; Mary F. Kanak, Cedar Rapids, IA; Sheila D. Keller, Brandon, MS; Scott H. Malbon, Blacksburg, VA; Andrea C. Mitchell, Louisville, CO; Marie St. Rose, Virginia Beach, VA; Deirdre K. Thornlow, Durham, NC; and Jan Wilkerson Weaver, Euless, TX.

JHQ could not maintain its standing as a valuable resource for healthcare quality professionals without the contributions of time, energy, and expertise from its dedicated volunteers. We are grateful to these colleagues and to those already serving as reviewers for their significant service to our field.

NAHQ 2008 Salary Survey

NAHQ is updating its salary survey and needs your input! This comprehensive survey of compensation and benefits aims to provide you with the most accurate information on positions in the healthcare quality field. It assists quality professionals in evaluating the expectations of their role—and the appropriate compensation for it. You will be contacted over the next several months to assist with gathering information, so please help us make this a great resource for you!

Update Your NAHQ Contact Information

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No one knows about the importance of correct data more than the quality professional. NAHQ is intent on delivering to you the valuable information you depend on us for, and we want to ensure that you continue to receive it. Please notify us of your current e-mail and contact information by going to the “Members Only” section (www.association-office.com/nahq/etools/login/account.cfm) of www.nahq.org, and clicking on “Edit Your Information.” You can also call NAHQ Member Services at 800/966-9392.