

## **St. Joseph's Medical Center, St. Mary's Innovis Health earn new patient safety awards**

*Program recognizes superior efforts to prevent adverse health events*

ST. PAUL, Minn. — St. Joseph's Medical Center, Brainerd, Minn., and St. Mary's Innovis Health, Detroit Lakes, Minn., have received a new award recognizing superior efforts to prevent the most prevalent type of adverse health events.

The Minnesota Hospital Association's inaugural Patient Safety Excellence Awards were distributed June 27. The program honors hospitals that are participating in at least one of the association's four safety campaigns and achieve at least 90 percent of a campaign's requirements.

"These awards set the bar very high," said MHA Patient Safety Vice President Tania Daniels. "Hospitals that qualify have achieved measurable and meaningful progress toward implementing best practices to drive down adverse health events, and we truly commend their outstanding efforts."

The initiatives work to prevent pressure ulcers, or bedsores ("Safe Skin"); patient falls ("Safe from Falls"); wrong-site invasive procedures ("Safe Site") and retained foreign objects in labor and delivery ("Safe Count"). Improvement measures in the Safe Skin campaign, for example, call for repositioning patients at least every two hours to keep pressure ulcers from developing. Each campaign included thorough sets of improvement steps based on national and state best practices, and on information gleaned from hospitals sharing information about adverse health events that occurred at their facilities.

St. Joseph's Medical Center received a Safe Skin award and St. Mary's Innovis Health received a Safe from Falls award.

Forty-six Minnesota hospitals were recognized by the program and 11 hospitals won two awards.