



COLUMBUS REGIONAL HOSPITAL



American Hospital Association McKesson

Quest for Quality Prize®

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Honoring Leadership and Innovation  
in Patient Care Quality, Safety, and Commitment

## **Columbus Regional Hospital Receives American Hospital Association National Quest for Quality Prize**

*Regional Indiana hospital recognized for leadership and innovation  
in quality, safety, and commitment to patient care*

Columbus Regional Hospital in Columbus, Indiana is the recipient of the 2007 American Hospital Association (AHA) – McKesson Quest for Quality Prize®, the highest quality honor awarded annually by the hospital industry. Columbus Regional Hospital is the first hospital in Indiana to be awarded the Quest for Quality Prize and will be recognized at the national 2007 Health Forum and AHA Leadership Summit in San Diego on July 22.

The Quest for Quality Prize honors the demonstration of leadership and innovation in quality, safety, and commitment to patient care. Specifically, organizations are evaluated for their commitment to improving areas of safety, patient-centeredness, effectiveness, efficiency, timeliness, and equity. Such efforts can serve as a model for others in the industry.

Ten years ago, Columbus Regional Hospital embarked on a mission to transform the hospital from “good to great” through dedication of hospital leadership, physicians, and employees to quality improvements for patients. The hospital has demonstrated its commitment to offering quality care through both clinical and non-clinical efforts. As an example, Columbus Regional Hospital achieved a considerable decline in surgical site infections and ventilator associated pneumonia in recent years, two issues that have plagued the health care industry.

Columbus Regional Hospital ranks in the top four percent of hospitals in the country for clinical quality according to the Centers for Medicaid & Medicare Services. Additionally, the hospital has attained a significant increase in patient satisfaction by encouraging open communication with the patient throughout their hospital experience and developing a system of accountability, with patient, employee, and physician satisfaction all in the national top performance decile.

“This prize is a testament to our dedicated staff and vision of being a leader in providing excellent quality care to patients and their families,” said Columbus Regional Hospital Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Tom Sonderman. “We must continue to push ourselves to offer the highest quality of care to the community and share our best practices with other hospitals.”

“Columbus Regional Hospital is passionately involved in the pursuit of excellence and in creating an environment that achieves optimal patient outcomes and the highest levels of patient satisfaction,” said AHA President and Chief Executive Officer, Rich Umbdenstock. “The environment is also one where employees are fully engaged and empowered to improve quality and enhance patient care.”

Columbus Regional Hospital was selected as the 2007 winner of the Quest for Quality Prize by a multi-disciplinary committee of health care experts following a site visit and extensive application review. Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles and INTEGRIS Baptist Medical Center in Oklahoma City were finalists for the award. The prize is supported by grants from the McKesson Foundation and McKesson Corporation. For more information on the award, visit the Quest for Quality Web site at [www.aha.org/questforquality](http://www.aha.org/questforquality).

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***Media Contacts***

*Denise Glesing  
Columbus Regional Hospital  
812-376-5344, [dglesing@crh.org](mailto:dglesing@crh.org)*

*Julie Piszczor  
Porter Novelli  
312-856-8815, [julie.piszczor@porternovelli.com](mailto:julie.piszczor@porternovelli.com)*

**About Columbus Regional Hospital**

Columbus Regional Hospital is a 225-bed, leading not-for-profit provider of quality health care services in Columbus, Indiana, serving the southeastern Indiana region. Columbus Regional Hospital's commitment to serving the community and being at the forefront of quality patient care is recognized by several national accreditation organizations. Columbus Regional Hospital is the 2007 recipient of the American Hospital Association-McKesson Quest for Quality Prize®, the highest quality honor awarded by the hospital industry, and ranks as one of the Best Places to Work in Indiana.

**About the American Hospital Association and McKesson Foundation**

The American Hospital Association (AHA) is a not-for-profit association of health care provider organizations and individuals that are committed to the improvement of health in their communities. AHA is the national advocate for its members, includes over 5,000 hospitals, health care systems, networks, and other providers of care. Founded in 1898, the AHA provides education for health care leaders and is a source of information on health care issues and trends. [www.aha.org](http://www.aha.org).

The McKesson Foundation supports community-based programs and services aimed at improving the health status of at-risk children and adults. The Foundation is funded by McKesson Corporation, a Fortune 500 corporation, which is the world's largest supply management and health care information technology company. [www.mckesson.com](http://www.mckesson.com).