



The Premier healthcare alliance: *Sharing nationwide knowledge to benefit local healthcare*

Why Premier exists: Not-for-profit hospitals created Premier as a way to better serve their patients by overcoming the challenges posed by our fragmented healthcare system. Through the Premier alliance, hospitals connect to share knowledge to improve quality while safely reducing the cost of care.

How Premier works: Owned by more than 200 of the nation's leading not-for-profit hospitals and healthcare systems, Premier serves more than 2,400 U.S. hospitals and 70,000-plus other healthcare sites. Owners range from small and rural to large inner-city facilities. The hospitals and health systems that own Premier share the not-for-profit purpose of operation for social good, and they share with Premier the core purpose of *improving the health of communities*.

What Premier does:

- **Share knowledge to improve patient outcomes:** Premier operates the nation's largest and most detailed clinical, financial and outcomes database, containing information for approximately one out of every five patient discharges in the U.S.—or 309 million patient discharges. Using Premier's database allows hospitals to compare their performance in specific areas to peers and best performers, find opportunities for improvement, and track the results of their efforts. This data warehouse is used by the Food and Drug Administration for drug surveillance and by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to evaluate next-generation payment models. Premier provides hands-on advice to help hospitals use this knowledge to make rapid improvements in their care processes and patient outcomes.
- **Share knowledge about and cooperatively purchase hospital products and services:** By pooling together the purchasing power and knowledge of the entire group of hospitals, Premier negotiates contracts on behalf of its not-for-profit hospital members. This collaborative action has resulted in more than \$1 billion in validated savings to Premier hospitals in fiscal year 2009 alone.
- **Enable hospitals to share insurance claims experience and risk:** Hospitals work together through Premier to cover the professional liability risks they face. They also share knowledge on ways to improve patient safety and reduce risks. As a result, participants gain control over insurance costs while improving the care they deliver.

Premier Advocacy, the Washington, D.C. based arm of Premier Inc., is committed to promoting federal health policies that facilitate and enhance providers' ability to deliver high-quality, safe and cost-effective care. For more information on Premier, visit <http://www.premierinc.com/>.

Premier partnering with HHS

CMS

- Hospital Quality Incentive Demonstration
 - 3 year Medicare demo (2003-2006); extended for three additional years through Oct. 2009
 - 250 non-profit hospitals in 37 states
 - Tests value-based purchasing concept for Medicare payments to hospitals

FDA

- Unique device identification (UDI)
 - Resource to FDA in developing UDI regulations
 - Endorsed GS1
- Drug surveillance
 - Premier clinical and financial database, holding information on 1 in every 5 discharges in U.S., used by FDA for drug surveillance

CDC

- Healthcare-associated infections
 - Joint research initiative to help hospital infection preventionists prevent adverse events
 - Developing method to automate infection identification with electronic data
 - Premier Web-based infection surveillance tool, SafetySurveillor™ interface with National Healthcare Safety Network electronic system
 - Premier Safety Institute® research collaboration on hand hygiene improvement and injection safety for patients & workers
- CDC participates on Premier ACO/QUEST Advisory Panel

AHRQ

- Quality measure testing
 - Testing AHRQ Patient Safety Indicator (PSI) composite measures in HQID
- Comparative effectiveness research (CER)
 - Collaborating with academic & non-profit hospitals applying for CER funding
- AHRQ Patient Safety Culture Survey
 - Premier Safety Institute® – collaborated on development of data analysis tools
- AHRQ participates on Premier ACO/QUEST Advisory Panel