



News Release

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Local Hospital Systems Win National Award for Joint, Multi-Language Web Site

Mount Carmel, Nationwide Children's Hospital, The Ohio State University Medical Center and OhioHealth Build Web Site; Clinicians Can Better Educate Patients With Limited English Language Skills

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Central Ohio's four hospital systems are receiving national recognition for their collectively developed Web site, www.HealthInfoTranslations.org, which provides free patient education materials to low literacy and limited English-speaking patients. The 11th annual Cheers Award, to be presented next week in Orlando, FL, honors individuals, organizations, and companies who have set a superlative standard of excellence for others to follow in the prevention of medical errors and adverse drug events.

“The central Ohio healthcare systems came together to address health education needs for low literacy and limited English-speaking patients,” said Jeff Klingler, president and CEO of the Central Ohio Hospital Council. “They recognized that more and more people with limited English language skills or simply with a low literacy level needed to better understand healthcare related information. HealthInfoTranslations.org helps these patients access the information they need, and it has become an extremely important source of information for patients and the community.”

HealthInfoTranslations.org includes more than 3000 free resources, including medication safety-related information, to help clinicians teach patients with complex communications

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needs. The hospital systems advocate that providing patients information in a manner that is understandable empowers them to take an active role in their health care decision making and improves safety. The patient education material is easy to read and prints in English and 17 different languages, including Arabic, Bosnian, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Korean, Japanese, Hindi, French, Russian, Ukrainian, Vietnamese, Spanish, Somali, Marshallese, Portuguese, and Tagalog. Some topics are available in multimedia format to assist the patients who are not able to read print documents due to literacy issues.

In addition to medication safety education, health topics on the site include diagnostic tests, diseases and conditions, exercise and rehabilitation, food and diet, health and wellness, home care, pain and comfort, pediatrics, pregnancy and baby care, safety, stress and coping and surgeries and treatments. The site also offers translated disaster preparedness information to help people deal with disasters such as power outages, biological emergencies and pandemic flu.

The site has been receiving on average more than 8,000 visits a day. Most users come from Ohio, but there have been users from all states in the country and from nearly 100 foreign countries. Additional languages and topics continue to be added, and the information is available without copyright. HealthInfoTranslations.org has been identified by the National Libraries of Medicine/Medline Plus as setting the gold-standard for translated materials and has been cited by Joint Commission as a premier example of evidenced-based practice in patient safety.

The annual awards dinner and reception will be held on Tuesday evening, December 9, 2008, at Maggiano's Little Italy restaurant in Orlando, FL. The Cheers Awards are hosted by the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP), a nonprofit organization that works closely with healthcare practitioners and institutions, regulatory agencies, consumers and professional organizations to provide education about medication errors and their prevention.

FRANKLIN COUNTY HOSPITAL SYSTEMS

About Mount Carmel Health System

Founded in 1886, Mount Carmel Health System (MCHS) offers a broad range of healthcare services in the Central Ohio region and has approximately 1 million patient visits annually. MCHS includes four hospitals – Mount Carmel East, Mount Carmel West, Mount Carmel St. Ann’s, and Mount Carmel New Albany; numerous outpatient services; home care; palliative and hospice care; an ambulance and mobile intensive care unit service; a community outreach program for the poor and under-served; a college of nursing; and a Medicare Advantage health plan. MCHS has approximately 9,000 associates; medical staffs of approximately 1,500 physicians; and more than 1,000 volunteers. MCHS has received national recognition for its quality of care, and is a past recipient of the Catholic Health Association’s highest award – the “Achievement Citation.” As a Mission-driven organization, MCHS provided \$59.9 million in total uncompensated community benefits in FY 07, serving more than 200,000 individuals. MCHS is a member of Trinity Health, the fourth-largest Catholic healthcare system in the United States. For more information, visit www.mountcarmelhealth.com

About Nationwide Children’s Hospital

Ranked in the U.S. News & World Report’s 2008 list of “America’s Best Children’s Hospitals,” Nationwide Children’s Hospital is one of the nation’s largest not-for-profit freestanding pediatric healthcare networks providing wellness, preventive, diagnostic, treatment and rehabilitative care for infants, children, adolescents and adult patients with congenital disease. A medical staff of nearly 900 and a hospital staff of 7,000 provide state-of-the-art pediatric care for more than 700,000 patient visits annually. As home to the Department of Pediatrics of The Ohio State University College of Medicine, Nationwide Children’s Hospital physicians train the next generation of pediatricians and pediatric specialists. The Research Institute at Nationwide Children’s Hospital is one of the top 10 National Institutes of Health-funded freestanding pediatric research facilities. Nationwide Children’s remains true to the original mission since its founding in 1892 of providing care regardless of a family’s ability to pay. More information is available at NationwideChildrens.org.

About Ohio State University Medical Center

The Ohio State University’s academic medical center includes the College of Medicine, OSU Physicians and the OSU Health System, comprising University Hospital, University Hospital East, OSU Harding Hospital, Dodd Hall Rehabilitation Hospital, Ross Heart Hospital and a network of community care sites. The James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute is a dedicated cancer hospital and research center with its own governance structure separate from, but closely coordinated with the Medical Center and Ohio State University. OSU Physicians, the practice plan of the OSU Medical Center, is composed of more than 700 regular faculty in the College of Medicine who provide high-quality and coordinated health care to Medical Center patients. The Ohio State University Medical Center has consistently been named one of America’s best hospitals by U.S. News & World Report magazine with eight specialty programs being listed as among the country’s best in the most recent edition. For more information, please visit www.medicalcenter.osu.edu.

About OhioHealth

Named by FORTUNE Magazine as one of the “100 Best Companies to Work For” in 2007 and 2008, OhioHealth is a nationally recognized, not-for-profit, charitable, healthcare organization serving and supported by the community. Based in Columbus, Ohio, it is a family of 17 hospitals, 23 health and surgery centers, home-health providers, medical equipment and health service suppliers throughout a 40-county area. OhioHealth hospitals in central Ohio are Riverside Methodist Hospital, Grant Medical Center, Doctors Hospital, Grady Memorial Hospital and Dublin Methodist Hospital. For more information, please visit our Web site at www.ohiohealth.com.

About Central Ohio Hospital Council

The Central Ohio Hospital Council was created in 2008 and represents Columbus’ four hospital systems: Mount Carmel Health System, Nationwide Children’s Hospital, The Ohio State University Medical Center and OhioHealth. The Hospital Council works to assist the four hospital systems in meeting the health care needs of the Central Ohio community through increased collaboration and advocacy. More information is available at www.centralohiohospitals.org