

# NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

Lisa Church  
lgchurch@brhc.org  
660-829-7788

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## **BOTHWELL CELEBRATES ACHIEVEMENTS IN PATIENT SAFETY, QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS**

SEDALIA – Bothwell Regional Health Center is celebrating recent achievements in patient safety and quality improvements during National Healthcare Quality Week Oct. 20-26.

“Thanks to the hard work of multiple teams, Bothwell has received national recognition for progress and success on important quality initiatives,” said John Dawes, president and CEO of Bothwell Regional Health Center. “I’m very proud of our staff for achieving the level of exceptional care that Bothwell provides for our families and friends right here at home.”

While Bothwell is progressing on several quality initiatives, the health center’s focus remains on decreasing infections from catheters, hospital readmissions, early elective deliveries, blood clots forming within a vein and falls.

In September 2010, Bothwell’s catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI) rate was 18.3 per 1,000 patients. This summer, the Bothwell team achieved a CAUTI rate of zero with a rolling average of 0.93 per 1,000 patients, and nursing unit 2 Southwest reached 488 days without a CAUTI.

There are two initiatives currently in place to reduce hospital readmissions – Project RED and Project Blue. Bothwell’s congestive heart failure readmission rate has dropped by half, from 30 to 15 percent, since starting the program in July 2011.

“We are seeing positive results similar to Project RED with Project Blue, a new quality initiative that works to decrease readmissions for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) patients,” said Ja Hickman, director of Quality Management, who is leading Bothwell’s efforts.

In addition to reducing readmissions, Bothwell has worked to decrease early elective deliveries, or inducing a baby’s birth before 39 weeks of gestation.

“In March 2012, Bothwell’s early elective delivery rate -- inductions before 39 weeks -- was 18.6 percent,” said Hickman. “As of this summer, we have gone 11 months without an early elective delivery. This is better for the baby and for the mother.”

The goal for treatment of venous thromboembolism, or blood clots forming within a vein, was 95 percent of patients who qualified for anti-clotting medication received it within 24 hours prior to or after surgery. Bothwell has achieved a rate of 93.75 percent of patients receiving treatment.

The Bothwell team has also worked hard to reduce patient falls. To date, the team has surpassed its goal, reducing falls to 2.67 per 1,000 patient days. The national average is 3 fall per 1,000 patient days.

“Our goal is to get to zero on these,” said Hickman. “Zero infections, zero readmissions, zero falls. We take very seriously the quality of care we provide and the safety of our patients during their stay with us.”

Bothwell Regional Health Center joins health-care professionals across the country in celebrating National Healthcare Quality Week this month. The week highlights the influence of healthcare quality professionals in achieving improved patient care outcomes and delivery systems.

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Bothwell Regional Health Center is a 140-bed regional health center serving west-central Missouri with state-of-the-art technology and comprehensive health and wellness services including surgical, cancer, orthopedic, cardiovascular, women’s health, and therapy services. For more information on Bothwell Regional Health Center and its services, visit the Web site at [www.brhc.org](http://www.brhc.org) or find them on Facebook.