



## January News Bites

*News Bites* is quality related information you may have some interest in. In 2013, we are committed to improving the communication and collaboration among our members. If you have some information you would like to share, please feel free to email to any member of the Board for inclusion in this monthly news. This can also be found on our website under E news. Best wishes for a fabulous February!

### **1M Mainers have record in health information exchange**

**As of October, more than one million people—76 percent of the Maine population—have a record in the statewide health information exchange, according to the annual report for the Bangor Beacon Community.**

The report was presented at Thursday's Health Information Technology (HIT) Steering Committee meeting.

Only one percent of the people have opted out, the report said. Out of 39 hospitals in Maine, 28 are connected and all are scheduled for connection by the end of 2013.

Additionally, more than 250 physician practices across the state are connected to and exchanging clinical data through the exchange. By the end of 2012, three home health organizations and two long-term care facilities will be able to view information included in the exchange. Work in 2012 focused on integrating five federally qualified health centers and including the documentation of psychiatric records. Despite changes to Maine's mental health HIT privacy laws, Bangor Beacon Community has not yet uploaded mental health records into HealthInfoNet because of federal substance abuse privacy laws. It is difficult to separate mental health from substance abuse information.

The committee also learned that between October 2011 and December 15, 2012, 36 hospitals and 1,690 professionals received more than \$65 million in meaningful use incentive payments.

Other information from the meeting may be found at <http://www.maine.gov/hit/steering/index.shtml>.

**MHA Contact: [David Winslow](#)**

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The [2013 Health Literacy Institute](#) will be June 2-5 in Freeport. There are only 36 spaces available, so those interested are urged to register early. The Institute offers plain

language skills to communicate health messages quickly and clearly to diverse consumer audiences.

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## The MHMC Welcomes Tori Milan!

The Maine Health Management Coalition is very pleased to announce the hiring of Tori Milan as the new Pathways to Excellence (PTE) Specialist!



Tori comes to us from [Martin's Point Health Care](#) where she has spent the last five years working first as a Credentialing Specialist in the Credentialing Department, and later as a Senior Network Specialist in the Medical Management Operations Department. In her roles there, Tori worked closely with physician practices to help them with the credentialing process, and also with demographic and contractual provider information to ensure the integrity of Martin's Point databases.

In her new role with the Maine Health Management Coalition, Tori will be utilizing those skills to help maintain the accuracy of the MHMC's Provider Database. She will also serve as the primary liaison between the Pathways to Excellence program and practices around the state that are interested in seeking recognition on the Coalition's public reporting website, [www.getbettermaine.org](http://www.getbettermaine.org).

Tori will begin work with the Coalition on January 21st, and we look forward to introducing you to her over the coming weeks and months!

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## Maine Health Care Town Hall Meetings



**Join us at one of the following six locations:**

University of Maine, Augusta  
University of Maine, Machias  
University of Maine, Orono

University of Southern Maine, L/A  
University of Southern Maine, Portland  
University of Maine, Presque Isle

**Maine Quality Counts** and its partners\* invite



you to attend a free Maine "Health Care Town Hall Meeting" to view the film: ESCAPE FIRE: The Fight to Rescue American Healthcare. [Donald Berwick, MD](#), along with other well-respected health leaders, provide important and insightful commentary throughout the film.

Health care tops the list of concerns of many Americans. ESCAPE FIRE is about finding a way out. It's about saving the health of a nation.

Following the film, we will discuss how we (health care providers and consumers) can improve health care in Maine together. Bring your questions to this meeting to learn more about how you can help and be more involved!



### **ESCAPE FIRE: The Fight to Rescue American Healthcare (Trailer)**

#### **Want to learn more?**

To hear more on Dr. Berwick's approach to seeking out potential solutions for our health care system, register to attend QC 2013 Conference, taking place April 3, 2013, at the Augusta Civic Center in Augusta, Maine. For additional information [click here](#).

**Save the Date!**

**Monday, March 4,  
2013**

**5:30 PM - 8:00 PM  
(doors open at 5:00  
PM)**

**Light refreshments provided.**

There is no cost to attend, however, you must register by Friday, February 22.

**REGISTER NOW!**

#### **Questions?**

Contact:

Laurie J. Belden, Events  
Manager

[lbelden@mainequalitycounts.org](mailto:lbelden@mainequalitycounts.org)

 Forward to a Friend

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QC!**



For the latest information on upcoming events, follow us on Facebook and Twitter!



# QC 2013

Aligning Maine's Forces to Become  
the First State to Reach the *Triple Aim*  
population health • cost reduction • care experience

Maine Quality Counts is holding their annual conference, QC 2013, on Wednesday, April 3 from 8 am - 4 pm at the Augusta Civic Center! The event, which is co-sponsored by the Maine Public Health Association and the Maine Primary Care Association, brings together over 400 healthcare professionals from around the state each year to participate in workshops and listen to presentations from national leaders in healthcare.

This year's keynote speakers include Donald Berwick, MD, MPP, FRCP, the former Administrator for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and the founder of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI), and Rosemary Gibson, BS, M.Sc, a renowned speaker and author of *The Treatment Trap*. Both speakers will focus their talks on how we can achieve the Triple Aim in Maine.

***For more information about QC 2013, visit [mainequalitycounts.org](http://mainequalitycounts.org)!***

Agenda & Registration Information will be available February 2013!

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## CONGRATULATIONS!!!!!!

**Maine hospitals that won recognition  
as  
Best Hospital for Obstetrics by Women:**

Bridgton Hospital, Bridgton

Cary Medical Center, Caribou

Central Maine Medical Center, Lewiston

Inland Hospital, Waterville

Maine Coast Memorial Hospital, Ellsworth

Mid Coast Hospital, Brunswick

Miles Memorial Hospital, Damariscotta

Mount Desert Island Hospital, Bar Harbor

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**CONGRATULATIONS!**

**New CPHQ's**

Ruth Lyons, Mount Desert Island Hospital

Shelly Shibles, RN, BSN, Stephens Memorial Hospital