

MAINE AHQ Newsletter

Maine Association for Healthcare Quality

Spring 2012

www.maineahq.org

From the President **Beth Dodge, RN, CPHQ**

Dear Colleagues –

Greetings and welcome to the MAHQ spring newsletter.

Spring is a busy time for quality professionals and members of our organization. We held our first open Board meeting on April 23, 2012 in Bangor, ME. Some members joined by phone and we were pleased to have Beth Bunker-Anderson and Deb Swanberg from Maine Coast Memorial Hospital join us in person. Beth and Deb added a special perspective to our Board discussions and gave us many good ideas to improve our meetings in the future.

After the business meeting was completed, we had a great presentation and discussion led by Betty Ann Cyr on Meaningful Use. Betty Ann shared some of her experiences as she moves Mercy Hospital along the meaningful use timeline. Deb summed it up well by saying “meaningful use won’t work if IT and Quality aren’t married!”

Open discussion focused on inflated mortality rates in light of palliative care beds. We all agreed it was great to discuss current quality issues we are facing. A good time was had by all!

Many thanks to Betty Ann for leading our meaningful use discussion and to Stacy Norris and her assistant Lisa Jo for coordinating the space and eats for our meeting!

Our next open meeting is scheduled for June 15, 2012 at Pen Bay Medical Center in Rockport from 12noon to 2pm. The education topic will be Patient and Staff Safety in dealing with Bath Salts.

Some of the activities this spring include the nomination and selection of the MAHQ *Distinguished Member of the Year*. Nomination requests went out in early April with a deadline of April 30, 2012. This *Distinguished Member* will be recognized Thursday June 21, 2012 at the MHA Summer forum. This year’s Summer Forum is being held at the Samoset Resort I Rockland, ME June 20th – 22nd. As an affiliate organization we can provide a reduced rate for our members. Please see the information on the website (www.MaineAHQ.org).

Our Spring Educational Program will be held on Friday May 18, 2012 at the Willette Center in Bangor. Many thanks to Trudy O’Bar and the Education Program committee for all of their hard work in bringing this program together. The focus is on data collection and communication/presentation of data to the organization and Board of Trustees. CEUs are available and, as always, networking with fellow members of MAHQ is a great benefit of these programs! More information is available on our website at www.MaineAHQ.org. Hope to see you there!

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Other activities occurring this spring include:

- May 1, 2012 –
- May 6-8, 2012 – NNESHHRM Spring Conference, Providence, RI
- May 9, 2012 – NRC Picker Maine
- May 10, 2012 – QIO

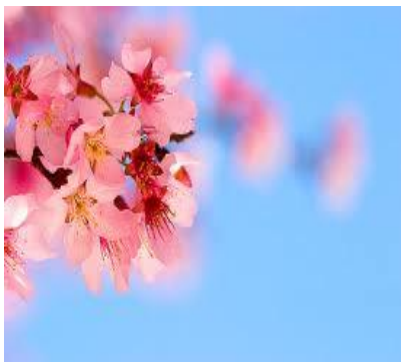
For more information on any of our programs or resources, please visit the website at www.MaineAHQ.org. Contact information for your Board members can be found there. Did you forget the user name and password for our website?

User Name: Maine Password: quality

Enjoy your day!

Beth

Elizabeth Dodge, RN, MHA, CPHQ
President and proud member of *MaineAHQ*



MAHQ Education *Trudy O'Bar*

Hello from the Program Committee!-

We are excited to share that the Spring Education Session is planned for Friday May 18th at the St Josephs Healthcare Park at 900 Broadway in Bangor, Maine. We look forward to listening to Carnie Williams from the Division of Licensing and Certification share her knowledge about best practices in sharing quality and safety data. She also will review the new CMS QA/PI review worksheet for upcoming surveys. We also will listen to a review of the GetBetterMaine website and what changes are in the works.

We held a great CPHQ review session in February with 15 attendees and facilitated by five of our members. We are working on a phone study group to assist these brave souls in further preparation for taking their CPHQ exams. Stay tuned for details if interested in "attending".

We are working on the Fall Educational Conference. The scheduled date is Thursday and Friday, November 1st and 2nd somewhere in the Portland area.

We are looking forward to bringing you speakers to address your wants and needs that you have shared through the Educational Survey most of you completed for us. Again stay tuned for details on this exciting session!

If anyone is interested in helping the Program committee please email the Program Chair, Trudy O'Bar at tobar@houltonregional.org.

Thanks and See you soon!

[Next Up]

Spring Educational Program

Communication of Quality and Safety Data

Friday May 18th

Willette Center
St Josephs Hospital
900 Broadway Street
Bangor, ME

[maineahq.org]

Did you know you can now register for Educational programs and renew your MAHQ Membership online using Paypal? You can also join MAHQ using this feature as well.

Many thanks to Betty Ann Cyr and Rhonda Lanzara-Dalfonso for helping to get this set-up on our website!

[nahq.org]

Join NAHQ in Tampa on September 20-23, 2012, to develop your 'Blueprint for Change.'



Your 2012 MAHQ Board

Beth Dodge – President
bdodge@penbayhealthcare.org

Jennifer Charrette – Immediate-Past President
jennifercharrette@yahoo.com

Carolyn Koepke – Secretary
ckoopke@midcoasthealth.com

Trudy O’Bar – Program Chair
tobar@houltonregional.org

Rhonda Lanzara-Dalfonso – Treasurer
dalfonsor@mercyme.com

Betty Ann Cyr – Membership
CyrBA@mercyme.com

Jeff Gregory – Communication Chair
gregoj@mmc.org

Stacy Norris – Member-at-Large
Stacy.norris@sjhhealth.com



“Quality means doing it right when no one is looking”

Henry Ford

CPHQ Certification

The CPHQ credential signifies professional and academic achievement by individuals in the field of healthcare quality management. The comprehensive body of knowledge includes quality management, quality improvement, case/care/disease/utilization management, and risk management at all employment levels and in all healthcare settings.

The CPHQ examination is a computerized exam offered at multiple testing sites across the nation.

After earning the certification, CPHQs must earn continuing education credits and recertify every two years. If you are a member of the National Association for Healthcare Quality, you will save \$70 off the normal cost for taking the exam.

NAHQ offers periodic review classes at various locations and also prior to the start of the National Conference. For more information, please visit nahq.org.

Pediatric Immunizations

from the Get BetterMaine website

Immunizations are one of the most safe and effective ways to prevent people from getting sick. Before vaccines, children were at great risk for developing terrible illnesses which could sometimes result in death. According to the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, before vaccines parents could expect that every year:

Polio would paralyze 10,000 children

Measles would infect about 4 million children, killing 3,000

Diphtheria would be the most common cause of death in school-aged children

Rubella would cause birth defects and developmental delays in as many as 20,000 newborns

Whooping cough (pertussis) would kill thousands of infants, and Hib, a bacterium, would cause meningitis in about 15,000 children, leaving many with permanent brain damage.

