



October 2, 2008

Press Release

For immediate use

Hospitals Eliminate Costly Errors Using Proven Reliability Tools

New Book Documents Effectiveness of Root Cause Analysis

Boca Raton. Saving lives and saving millions of dollars is the sort of win-win scenario that every healthcare facility would gladly embrace. In his new book, **Patient Safety: The PROACT® Root Cause Analysis Approach** (CRC Press - Taylor & Francis Group), consultant Robert Latino explains the methods that many hospitals are already using to eliminate *never events*, those errors in treatment or the care of patients that should never occur. In addition to costing people their lives and their health, these errors can cost hospitals incredible amounts of money. With Medicare, Medicaid, and other major insurers denying payment for *never events*, hospitals stand to lose large sums of money. It is reported that misplaced surgical sponges alone cost hospitals as much as \$36 million yearly in lost revenues. To stem this problem, hospital administrators are turning to the same efficiency tools that have revolutionized manufacturing around the world.

According to Anne Flood, a director at **Union Memorial Hospital** in Baltimore, “We have gotten so much more from our analysis using PROACT®. What was usually a long drawn out process has been significantly streamlined.” PROACT® is a product of the Reliability Center, which was chartered as an independent company in 1985, after being established in 1972 to provide Reliability improvements for the Allied Chemical Corporation (now Honeywell). In addition to consulting and training, the Center offers software designed specifically for health facilities looking to establish error-free environments.

In his book, Latino demonstrates how state-of-the-art-Root Cause Analysis (RCA) and Reliability management principles and tools drawn from manufacturing can be adapted within hospitals with dramatic results. Published this fall, the book details exactly how PROACT® will help a facility identify and prevent undesirable events instead of absorbing them as a cost of doing business. Its system solution is in use by risk, quality, and performance improvement managers all across the United States. The book illustrates the success of the process with a number of important case studies.

Additional information, including an audio-visual presentation, is available on the PROACT® website at <http://www.proactforhealthcare.com>. The book is available for purchase at www.crcpress.com.

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