

Shodair Children's Hospital Honored for Commitment to Patient Safety and Quality Care by Yellowstone Insurance Exchange, RRG

Shodair Children's Hospital, Helena, Montana, was recently presented Yellowstone Insurance Exchange, RRG's "2009 Gold Recognition Award" in recognition of the facility's commitment to quality and patient safety processes in healthcare. The awards were presented during Yellowstone Insurance Exchange, RRG's annual conference, held July 12-14, 2010 in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

Hospitals were eligible for two types of Quality Recognition Awards: the Gold Recognition Award and the Quality Improvement Recognition Award. Member hospitals throughout Montana, Idaho, New Mexico and Wyoming were eligible to apply for the awards. Criteria for the Gold Recognition Award included implementation of patient safety practices, education of the hospital board, staff, and physicians, and performance on national quality of care standards.

Shodair Children's Hospital earned the award through the facility's performance on specific national measures of healthcare quality and risk management. The award was presented by Mr. Doug McMillan, Chairperson of Yellowstone Insurance Exchange, RRG, and Ms. Sheryl Rickard, Risk Management Chairperson, to Jack Casey, CEO, and Ellen Livers, Director of Management Services. Mr. McMillan stated, "The importance of patient safety and healthcare quality has never been more apparent than now. It is essential that all healthcare providers and administrators demonstrate their commitment to healthcare quality by following recognized practices to reduce medical errors and enhance patient safety. Companies similar to Yellowstone can play an active role in encouraging patient safety by providing education and risk management services to hospitals and practitioners to encourage quality improvement, and by recognizing hospitals that make the extra effort to implement safe practices. Shodair has worked hard to meet those standards, and we congratulate them on their achievement."

Yellowstone Insurance Exchange, RRG, is a member-owned insurance company, providing professional liability insurance to member hospitals, endorsed by the Montana Healthcare Association and the Wyoming and New Mexico Hospital Associations.

FACILITY INFORMATION:

Shodair Children's Hospital provides acute and residential psychiatric care for Montana children and adolescents, and clinical and laboratory medical genetic services to residents of all ages. Shodair is a non-profit, non-denominational facility and is Montana's only Children's Miracle Network hospital. The medical genetics department at Shodair is the state's medical genetics program, and provides comprehensive services to patients at the Helena campus and in communities throughout the state, via outreach clinics.