



From: Childs, Blair, Senior Vice President

Sent: Friday, November 04, 2016 1:25 PM

Subject: Premier Vice President Gina Pugliese retiring (Vice President Emeritus)

After 17 years leading the Premier Safety Institute® and driving significant safety improvements in healthcare, Vice President, Gina Pugliese will be retiring from her full time position effective today, November 4, 2016. Gina, however, will remain Vice President Emeritus and continue in an advisory capacity, focusing on thought leadership work in safety. Leslie Schultz, RN, PhD, current Director and a veteran of Premier's quality and safety initiatives, will assume the staff leadership of the Institute. I wanted to share some history for those of you not as aware of all the many contributions Gina has made to Premier and America's healthcare system.

Gina joined Premier in 1999 and launched the Premier Safety Institute, www.premiersafetyinstitute.org. The Safety Institute website is a nationally recognized, publicly accessible healthcare website that integrated patient, worker and environmental safety and offered tools and resources to the public at no charge. Some of these key topics include prevention of needle sticks, back injuries, latex allergies, healthcare associated infections, opioid harm, as well as antimicrobial stewardship, hand hygiene, emergency preparedness on disasters, and public health emergencies like Ebola and Zika.

The Institute's knowledge repository website has had millions of visitors, is linked from thousands of professional, governmental, member and supplier websites, and its *SafetyShare* eNews has 55,000 subscribers.

One of the earliest safety topics championed by Gina and the Institute was needle stick prevention and worker safety that led the landmark *Needle stick Safety and Prevention Act*. The Safety Institute also held the first international conference on safer injection practices in collaboration with CDC, FDA, CMS, Joint Commission bringing members and suppliers together to design products and practices to reduce patient risks. Most recently, the Safety Institute led the effort for safer tubing connections, including the development of new standards for safer designs to prevent injury and deaths related to misconnections.

Gina helped Premier's Greenhealthy® program become the recognized industry leader in building and maintaining a safe and sustainable environment with safer and greener products, services and healthcare practices. This has led to Premier winning the *Champion for Change* national environmental leadership award for 14 consecutive years.

Gina has represented Premier on numerous national and federal advisory committees, including FDA, CDC, Joint Commission, NQF and AHRQ. Gina has had a leadership role in influencing safer clinical practice and regulatory policy. She has published more than 150 by-lined articles, books, blogs, published research and hundreds of national and international presentations in 16 countries. Gina has been recognized with the Carole DeMille outstanding achievement award from the Association of Professionals in Infection Control (APIC), the establishment of the "Gina Pugliese" scholarship by the Society of Healthcare Epidemiologists of America (SHEA) for her contributions in safety and infection prevention, and being named to Becker's top 50 US safety experts for the past three years.

I hope you will take a moment to express your thanks and appreciation for Gina's contributions to our healthcare system. While all this is a transition, we are looking forward to Gina continuing to be an active voice and force in Premier's work to transform healthcare together.

Best Regards,

Blair

Blair G. Childs

Senior Vice President

444 North Capitol Street, NW Suite 625

Washington, D.C. 20001-1511

202-879-8009 (O);

Premier, 2006 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award Recipient
13034 Ballantyne Corporate Place, Charlotte, NC 28277