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NHRMC Betty H. Cameron Women's & Children's Hospital NICU featured as center of innovation in Vermont Oxford Network's *NICU Next* video.

NHRMC Betty H. Cameron Women's & Children's Hospital NICU staff, physicians and leadership were selected to be featured in Vermont Oxford Network's Virtual Video Visit as a model of innovation and improvement for *NICU Next*, VON's two-year improvement collaborative.

The Vermont Oxford Network (VON) is a non-profit voluntary collaboration of healthcare professionals dedicated to improving the quality and safety of medical care for newborn infants and their families. Established in 1988, the Network is now comprised of 950 Neonatal Intensive Care Units around the world.

Members of the NHRMC NICU team attended the Vermont Oxford Network Annual Meeting and Quality Conference held in Chicago in October. Multidisciplinary NICU staff from NHRMC included Dr. Sheri Carroll, Dr. Robert DiGiuseppe, Brandy Garris, Brandi Page, Barbara Buechler, April Caine, Alison Martin, Donna Vaught, Christen Windham and Haley Schlottman.

The theme of this year's annual meeting was "Convening the Worldwide Community of Practice: Improving the Quality, Safety and Value of Care for Newborns and Their Families."

During the annual meeting, Jack Barto, NHRMC CEO and President, joined the NHRMC NICU team as they participated with a select group of NICUs from around the world in a special meeting. This day-long learning event was reserved for NICU teams already actively engaged in the VON Learning Collaboratives *NICQ 8* and the *iNICQ 2013 Intensive Track*. NHRMC NICU was one of only 16 NICUs to present two posters at the Learning Fair with two multidisciplinary teams. Their presentations and engagement caught the attention of VON leadership and meeting participants.

The Vermont Oxford Network is now in the process of launching *NICQ Next*, the next generation of improvement collaboratives, focused on innovation. This two-year improvement collaborative will provide both a structure and discipline for healthcare teams, in partnership with families, to improve the quality, safety, efficiency and value of neonatal care.

The Vermont Oxford Network searched the newborn care/NICU landscape for early adopters and innovators to serve as models of innovation and improvement for *NICQ Next*. NHRMC Betty H. Cameron Women's & Children's Hospital was selected as one of



NHRMC NICU team members and Jack Barto, NHRMC CEO and President, attend the Vermont Oxford Network Annual Meeting and Quality Congress in Chicago.



three featured centers of innovation. Other

centers are University Hospital in Uppsala, Sweden and University of San Francisco and Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford in Palo Alto, California.

Participating teams will experience innovation by "virtually" visiting these bold and innovative NICU settings, including the NICU at NHRMC, selected for their targeted clinical programs and/or new and intriguing models of care. *NICQ Next* will combine the power of VON's Internet-based collaboratives with a combination of virtual and face-to-face activities, resulting in a hybrid model for improvement interspersed with Internet-based Virtual Video Visits, *NICQ Next* teams will work "virtually" in their respective homeroom webinar sessions, to apply critical concepts and transferable lessons that will impact their local quality improvement goals.

Madge Buus-Frank, RNC, MS, APRN-BC, FAAN, Director of Quality Improvement and Education at VON, visited Wilmington in October with the VON Virtual Video Visit team. Her objective was to capture on film the quality of NICU patient care, standardization of work, Lean processes and innovation at NHRMC Betty H. Cameron Women's & Children's Hospital. The educational video created from this footage will enhance the quality of care received by patients and their families in NICU facilities worldwide.