

Med Safety Award Gives Winners Credibility, Means to Make Further Differences

Every year since 2004, the ASHP Foundation has given the [Award for Excellence in Medication-Use Safety](#) to a pharmacist-led multidisciplinary team for its significant institution-wide system improvements relating to medication use. Sponsored by the Cardinal Health Foundation, the award brings with it national media attention, a \$50,000 award, and opportunities to share important and replicable medication safety initiatives with other health-system pharmacists.

In this issue of *Impact*, we revisit the five recipients of the Award for Excellence in Medication-Use Safety for their perspectives on receiving the award, its outcomes and what it has meant to each team personally. We hope you enjoy reading these winners' stories!

2008: Novant Health, Winston-Salem, NC

"The Award for Excellence in Medication-Use Safety has increased our health system's awareness of the importance of medication safety in the communities we serve," says Terri Cardwell, Pharm.D., Safe Med clinical pharmacist for Novant Health. Novant, a not-for-profit, integrated healthcare system based in North Carolina, serves more than 5 million people from southern Virginia to northern South Carolina. [[Read more.](#)]



2008 Awardee: Novant Health representative (from left to right) Denise Segraves, Nan Holland, Terri Cardwell, and Jennifer Rief.

2007: Barnes-Jewish Hospital, St. Louis, MO

"The publicity of the award created a sense of accomplishment throughout the hospital, particularly in the Emergency Department and the ICUs," says Scott Micek, Pharm.D., a clinical pharmacist who led the sepsis identification and treatment initiative at Barnes-Jewish Hospital (BJH). "We showed that the efforts made to standardize care of sepsis patients dramatically impacts the patients' outcome." [[Read more.](#)]

2006: Alaska Native Medical Center, Anchorage, AK

Perhaps the most exotic location to be named an awardee was Alaska Native Medical Center (ANMC), which was selected because of its innovative telepharmacy solution to improve the quality of pharmaceutical care being delivered to the remote residents of the area. ANMC's Southcentral Foundation Telepharmacy Program sought to improve pharmaceutical services to its

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patient population of more than 36,000, spread out over a nearly 2,000-mile area with limited transportation options. [[Read more.](#)]

2005: Evanston Northwestern Healthcare, Evanston, IL

“The award really added prestige to our Department of Pharmacy,” says Lynn Boecler, Pharm.D., Senior Director of Pharmacy Services for Evanston Hospital, and the leader of ENH’s winning multidisciplinary team. “The hospital’s Board of Directors recognized that this was an achievement by the pharmacy department.” [[Read more.](#)]

2004: OhioHealth, Inc., Columbus, OH

“Winning the first Award for Excellence in Medication-Use Safety was really the ‘tipping point’ in regards to not only medication safety but patient safety at OhioHealth,” says Kathy Crea, Pharm.D., Medication Safety Coordinator for OhioHealth, and a member of the award selection panel since 2005. [[Read more.](#)]