

# I AM PATIENT SAFETY



## PENNSYLVANIA HOSPITAL

*Recognized for their dedication to patient safety by the Pennsylvania Patient Safety Authority*

Marybeth Lahey and Susan Meyers are committed to patient safety at the Pennsylvania Hospital. In early 2012, Marybeth and Susan were made aware of significant safety concerns related to infant falls at the hospital. Infant falls were reviewed from March 2012 to March 2013. During this time, 10 infant falls occurred, translating to a rate of 21.5 infant falls per 10,000 births. Marybeth and Susan did an exhaustive literature search on infant falls and found little information published.

As educators for Pennsylvania Hospital, Marybeth and Susan developed interventions within the facility that included: training all food service and environmental services staff about infant falls prevention and how to intervene when moms are noticed in a sleepy state; educating all nurses and physicians about the need for increased vigilance; recruiting physicians as champions against infant falls; giving moms two hours of quiet time in the afternoon so they could sleep; revising a safety contract to engage parents about the risks involved in caring for an infant while fatigued; developing a Good Catch log to capture opportunities for further education; and developing a fall debriefing process.

As a result of these implemented interventions, Pennsylvania Hospital experienced an 88 percent reduction in infant falls.

Join the Pennsylvania Patient Safety Authority in congratulating Marybeth Lahey and Susan Meyers for making patient safety at Pennsylvania Hospital a priority.

