



Kansas Association of Risk and Quality Management

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**A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT: WELCOME** to our new and returning members! We are so grateful to our risk and quality community and we are looking forward to a productive and meaningful (and hopefully Covid free) year. Your KARQM board has been busy strategizing and planning for this new year. We're working on bylaw revisions, education and learning platforms and resource availability. We're committed to increasing our communication and outreach with our members and making sure your needs are met.

The pandemic has rocked our worlds in more ways than one, making the focus on quality and safety more important than ever. A recent article in the New England Journal of Medicine <https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMp2118285> found significant increases in hospital acquired conditions including central line associated bloodstream infections (60% increase), MRSA infections (44% increase) and catheter associated urinary tract infections (43% increase). The supply chain impacts, staffing challenges and increased severity of illness in our populations are all contributing factors.

Many of us are experiencing the same. These findings are sending a clear message that we need to refocus our efforts and energies. Your KARQM team is here to help. Through networking, sharing, mentoring, and learning we will continue to promote the evidenced based delivery of quality health care and the practice of risk management in the health care setting. Looking forward to great things in 2022!

*Liz Carlton, RN, MSN, CCRN-K, CPHQ, CPPS*



## KARQM VIRTUAL SPRING MEETING MAY 3<sup>RD</sup>

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*Mark your calendars and plan to join the KARQM team for an afternoon of networking and learning. Details coming soon.*

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# WHAT'S NEW??

*The Kansas Risk Management program now has its own fax line!*

RM fax number:  **785-559-4285**

NEW quarterly report forms and an updated RMP checklist are available

[@ Medical Care Facilities | KDHE, KS](#)

Questions? Contact Kelly Rivera, CPTA

Health Facility Surveyor, Risk Manager

Health Facilities Program, Acute and Continuing Care

Bureau of Community Health Systems

Kansas Department of Health and Environment




[Kelly.Rivera@ks.gov](mailto:Kelly.Rivera@ks.gov)



[KDHE.RiskManagement@ks.gov](mailto:KDHE.RiskManagement@ks.gov)



QDC UPDATE: QDC recently implemented the **History Function** for the SOC assignments. All future SOC assignments will be recorded and viewable.

Quality Data  Pioneer Community Hospital

Welcome Jason Friesen [Change Password](#) [Logout](#) [Home](#)

**INCIDENT SUMMARY**

Patient: Smith, Jeffrey  
 Date: 12/17/2020 Time: QRR  
 Status: EMERGENCY DEPT Shift:

**INITIAL INVESTIGATION**

**COMMITTEE / FINAL REVIEW**

Review Committee Assigned: -- Select --

Persons Involved

Date	By	Action	FullName	Department	SOC	SOCFinal
2/28/2022 6:19:43 PM	Friesen, Jason	Update	Friesen, Jason	RISK MANAGEMENT	Saved to this PC	0
2/28/2022 6:19:52 PM	Friesen, Jason	Update	Holmes, Wendel	FAMILY MEDICINE	1	0
2/28/2022 6:20:24 PM	Friesen, Jason	Insert	John, Trapper	ANESTHESIA		
3/3/2022 1:33:05 PM	Friesen, Jason	Update	John, Trapper	ANESTHESIA	1	0
3/3/2022 1:33:48 PM	Friesen, Jason	Concur	Friesen, Jason	RISK MANAGEMENT	2	2
3/3/2022 1:33:48 PM	Friesen, Jason	Concur	John, Trapper	ANESTHESIA	1	1
3/3/2022 1:33:48 PM	Friesen, Jason	Concur	Holmes, Wendel	FAMILY MEDICINE	1	1

FullName	Department
Friesen, Jason	RISK MANAGEMENT
Holmes, Wendel	FAMILY MEDICINE
John, Trapper	ANESTHESIA

Questions? Contact Jason Friesen Health Data Solutions @



817 295 3301 or



[jason@healthdatasolutions.org](mailto:jason@healthdatasolutions.org)

## KARQM MENTORING PROGRAM

**Does this sound familiar?** You come to work one day when someone from leadership approaches you and asks you to take over risk and/or quality for your organization. You agree and then quickly wonder what you got yourself into. The person who filled the position is no longer there and you are left to pick up the pieces (if you are like me, the state surveyors walk in a week after you take the position!) Taking on a new role with little or no training can be extremely daunting, not to mention the fact that most of us learned very little about quality and risk in school. You're in luck! KARQM has resources available to help you. KARQM has a lot to offer risk and quality professionals across the State including education, networking and mentorship. Mentorship, in particular, can be especially meaningful and helpful to both the mentor and mentee.



The last two years, there has been an increase in requests for mentors. KARQM is always looking for risk and quality professionals who are willing to give a little of their time to help our newer members. Mentoring does not have to take a large amount of time and can be so rewarding.

Aimee Zimmerman (Past President)

### From our members:

“Being a mentor helps me become a better leader. I love meeting new people, learning about new environments and sharing my 35+ years of experience. Being a mentor also helps create innovation and new perspectives as it requires you to function outside your “inner” circle. It helps you think differently and broadens your overall view. Definitely mutually beneficial!”

Liz Carlton, Vice President Quality and Safety, The University of Kansas Health System

“Being a mentor allows me to give others, what I needed my first several years when I became a Quality Director and then the Risk Manager. I want to be a person that they feel comfortable asking any question, because we know, there is no dumb question, we have all been there. I want to share what I have learned along the way and am still learning and can even learn from them. It helps us all to have resources to reach out to!”

Shawna Blanka

Director of Quality/Risk Management/Public Relations/HIPAA Privacy/Security Officer, Cheyenne County Hospital

“My KARQM mentor has been a great resource for asking questions and helping me learn my role as a risk manager. My mentor responds quickly to my questions and provides fact-based answers based on regulations. I appreciate the opportunity to utilize this mentor time taken to help me grow in my position.”

Tara Souder

Risk Manager & Medical Staff Coordinator, McPherson Hospital, Inc.

*Need more information about the mentoring program?*

Aimee Zimmerman, Past President



[azimmerman@lchoakley.com](mailto:azimmerman@lchoakley.com)



785-672-1333



# DISTRICT NEWS

**THE NORTHWEST DISTRICT** consists of 18 counties, which some may refer to us as ‘those way out west’.

Our team met February 17, at Norton County Hospital. We had ten in person and four attended via Zoom. Additionally, we were joined by our guests, Shelley Boden, with Boden Healthcare Consulting, Inc.; and Susan Runyan, Healthworks Consultant.

Our guest speaker was Darlene Bainbridge of Bainbridge and Associates, Inc. (Strategic Quality Support System SQSS). She spoke on what hospitals are seeing from surveyors, how to get departments excited about quality improvement and how to deal with difficult personalities in regard to quality improvement. We also had an update from a member of the state KARQM board. One of the best parts of our meetings is when we share and network. During that time, anyone can bring up a topic or ask a question to see how others are handling it at their facilities. This time is always so helpful to all of us.

We reviewed our bylaws and had a great lunch provided by our hosts at Norton. Pre pandemic, we would have had a tour of the facility before we left for the day. It is always fun to see how other facilities are set up or what different departments they may have in their facility compared to your own.

Our district is truly honored with some very experienced leaders that currently are on the state board including Aimee Zimmerman, Past President and Stephanie Bjornstad, treasurer. These two bring a lot of value and experience to our district. The district chairs also serve on the state board, which is Shawna Blanka.

The KARQM districts are a very valuable resource for those new to quality and risk and for those who have been around for a while. It provides a great networking forum!

Shawna Blanka  
NW District Chair

Not yet a member?  
Please join!

**Why should you join?** In addition to great networking and learning, your membership fees allow for economical programs and scholarships for our members.

**How can you join?** Visit us @ <https://www.kha-net.org/alliedorganizations/karqm/>  
**Annual membership application @ [membership](#) application**



## Are you a leader looking to serve?

KARQM currently has the following positions open or coming up for reelection:

- President Elect
- Vice President/Education Chair
- Northcentral District Chair

Interested applicants contact Liz Carlton  
[lcarlton@kumc.edu](mailto:lcarlton@kumc.edu) or  
Aimee Zimmerman @ [AZimmerman@lchoakley.com](mailto:AZimmerman@lchoakley.com)  
for further information.

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## Your Board Members

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**President– Liz Carlton, RN, MSN, CCRN-K, CPHQ, CPPS**

Vice President Quality & Safety  
The University of Kansas Health System  
4000 Cambridge KC, KS 66160  
Phone: 913-588-5428  
Email: [Lcarlton@kumc.edu](mailto:LCarlton@kumc.edu)

**Past President - Aimee Zimmerman, RN, BSN, MHA**

COO/Risk Manager  
Logan County Hospital  
211 Cherry St. Oakley, KS 67748-1201  
Phone: (785) 672-1333  
Email: [azimmerman@lchoakley.com](mailto:azimmerman@lchoakley.com)

**Vice President/Education Chair - Christine Winkel**

Infection Prevention, Quality and Risk Director  
Mitchell County Hospital Health Systems  
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Phone: (785) 738-9527  
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**Secretary – Cody Utz**

Director of Patient Care Services & Quality  
Holton Community Hospital  
1110 Columbine Drive Holton, KS 66436  
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**Treasurer – Stephanie Bjornstad**

Quality Coordinator/Risk Manager  
Rooks County Health Center  
PO Box 389 Plainville, KS 67663  
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**Northwest District Chair – Shawna Blanka**

Director, Quality | Risk Management | Public Relations | HIPAA Privacy  
| Security Officer  
Cheyenne County Hospital  
210 W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street St. Francis, KS 67756  
Phone: 785-332-9088  
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**Northeast District Chair – Joanie Blits, RN**

Risk and Compliance Manager  
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**Southwest District Chair –Tina Pendergraft, BSN, RN**

Quality/Risk/Trauma Program Coordinator/Emergency Preparedness  
Officer  
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Satanta, KS 67870  
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**Southcentral District Chair – Tracy Jarrell**

Quality Coordinator  
Health Ministries Clinic  
720 Medical Center Drive Newton, KS 67114  
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**Southeast District Chair – Rachel Merrick, RN**

Quality Coordinator  
Labette Health  
1902 South Us Highway 59 Parsons, KS 67357  
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**KHA Liaison – Ron Marshall**

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