



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

Dear KARQM MEMBERS

Thank you so much for becoming a new member or returning member of KARQM. We're thrilled to have you on board and can't wait to get to know you better. Your membership provides you the opportunity to participate in district meetings, request a mentor, and benefit from discounts, volunteer opportunities, and valuable resources. The KARQM Board has been busy working to provide the members with two amazing conferences. The Spring Conference will be on May 2nd in Topeka and the Fall Conference will be held on August 7th in Wichita; our Board hopes to see everyone there!

Happy
Spring!



The KARQM organization would not be functioning without the wonderful support of our dedicated Board and District members who strategically plan, contact speakers, find locations, plan meals, agendas, and show up for each and every meeting committed to make KARQM stronger for the future. I would like to personally thank each one of the Board and District members for their dedication to KARQM.

This year, the KARQM newsletter will continue to be published, thanks to Liz Carlton who graciously agreed to spearhead this project so that the KARQM members will continue to receive continuous communication. In addition, the KARQM website will undergo a reorganization in an effort to make it more user-friendly, so be on the lookout for those changes.

Hot topics this year that have peaked in the Quality and Risk Management arenas include but are not limited to Peer review, Utilization patterns in Healthcare, Social Determinant of Health, Health Equity, Peer Chart reviews, Get with the Guidelines program and the Antimicrobial Use and Resistance (AU/AR). Your KARQM team is here to help you on these topics, through networking, sharing, mentoring, and learning. We may not know all the answers but will attempt to get you to someone who can help answer your questions. We all learn together, with evidence based, standards of care though the delivery of quality, safety, and risk management. Please join your KARQM District activities, as well as the conferences to make the most of your KARQM membership. Let's make this a fun, positive and engaging 2024!

Regards,

Christine Winkel, MLS, PBT(ASCP)^{CM}



CONFERENCE:

Let's Spring into Quality & Risk

May 2, 2024

KAMMCO BUILDING (623 SW 10TH, TOPEKA, KS)

AGENDA



- ✚ Promoting a Culture of Safety
- ✚ KS Risk Management Survey 101
- ✚ The Journey to Zero Harm Starts with Shared Learning & an Atmosphere of Trust
- ✚ Patient Safety Response Team
- ✚ Stress 1st Aid After an Adverse Event

Room Block: Ramada Hotel and Convention Center

Block name: KARQM group Call 785-234-5400—April 17 cut-off date.

REGISTER @[HTTPS://KARQMSPRINGMEETING2024.EZREGISTER.COM](https://karqmspringmeeting2024.ezregister.com)

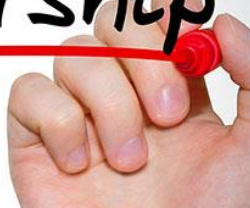
Save
the
Date

KARQM FALL CONFERENCE

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2024
WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY
RHATIGAN STUDENT CENTER
3550 WUSHOCK DRIVE



Membership



KARQM -Why should you join?

In addition to great networking and learning, your membership fees allow for economical programs and scholarships for our members. Fees are annual regardless of when you join.

How can you join? Visit us @ [KARQM](https://www.kha-net.org/alliedorganizations/karqm/)

<https://www.kha-net.org/alliedorganizations/karqm/>



Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

AHRQ is reaching out to quality improvement organizations regarding the new [Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality \(AHRQ\) Safety Program for Telemedicine: Improving Antibiotic Use](#). This is a no-cost program that seeks to promote appropriate antibiotic use while maintaining patient satisfaction and reducing potential side effects in patients seen via telemedicine. They are currently recruiting primary and urgent care facilities to participate. This program, beginning in June 2024, consists of brief educational presentations about best practices to optimize antibiotic prescribing in the telemedicine environment. Participants will have access to technical assistance, coaching, webinars, and practical tools to implement improvements in their practice. The program is offering credit via the American Medical Association (AMA), American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) Maintenance of Certification (MOC), American Association for Physician Assistants (AAPA), and Interprofessional Continuing Education (IPCE) to participants at no charge.



Recently we learned that the Risk positions across the state of Kansas are in jeopardy. In the calendar year 2023, 72 risk managers left their roles. In 2024, over 17 have already vacated their positions. Being a risk manager is not for the faint of heart. It requires a skill set that is complex and comprehensive. It is also a CRITICAL position. KARQM is here to support the novice and the seasoned risk manager. Our mentorship program can pair you with a tenured risk leader to help you navigate the complexities. The Kansas Association of Risk and Quality Management was created to promote the delivery of quality health care and the practice of risk management in Kansas health care facilities. A critical component of our team is the Mentor Program. KARQM's Mentor Program is designed to assist in the professional growth and development of the inexperienced Risk Manager or Quality Manager. If you would like to be a mentor or need a mentor, please let us know! A confidentiality agreement is available on the KARQM website if required. Need more information about the KARQM mentoring program?



Reach out to: Tereasa DeMeritt, MHA, RN, APRN-NPc, CPPS, CPHQ



tdemeritt@labettehealth.com



620-820-5554

Your 2024 Board Members

President

Christine Winkel

Infection Prevention, Quality and Risk Director
Mitchell County Hospital Health Systems
400 W. Eighth Street, PO Box 399
Beloit, KS 67420
Phone: (785) 738-9527
Email: cwinkel@mchks.com

Past President

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

Vice President Quality & Safety
The University of Kansas Health System
4000 Cambridge Street
Kansas City, KS 66160
Phone: (913) 588-5428
Email: lcarterton@kumc.edu

President Elect

Tereasa DeMerritt, MHA, RN, APRN-NPc, CPPS

Vice President Quality and Patient Experience
Labette Health
1902 S US 59 HWY
Parsons, KS 67357
Phone:
Email: tdemeritt@labettehealth.com

Vice President/Education Chair

Shawna Blanka

Chief Operating Officer
Cheyenne County Hospital
210 W. 1st Street
St. Francis, KS 67756
Phone: (785) 332-9088
Email: sblanka@cheyennecountyhospital.com

Secretary

Cody Utz, RT(R), RDMS, RVT, RDCS

Director of Quality & Informatics
Holton Community Hospital
1110 Columbine Drive
Holton, KS 66436
Phone: (785) 364-9638
Email: cody.utz@rhrjc.org

Treasurer

Melissa Briscoe, BSN, RN

Manager of Quality, Risk, UR, Employee Health & Infection Prevention
Kansas Spine & Specialty Hospital
3333 N Webb Rd
Wichita, KS 67226
Phone: (316) 462-5270
Email: mbriscoe@ksspine.com

Special Projects Subcommittee Chair

Aimee Zimmerman, RN, BSN, MHA

Chief Executive Officer
Logan County Hospital
211 Cherry St.
Oakley, KS 67748-1201
Phone: (785) 672-1333
Email: azimmerman@lchoakley.com

Northeast District Chair

Amber Styles, BS, MSM, HACF

Senior Director Regulatory & Risk Management
The University of Kansas Health System
4000 Cambridge KC, KS 66160
Phone: (913) 945-5112
Email: astyles@kumc.edu

Northcentral District Chair

Serenity Johnson, CPHQ, MBA, BB

Quality Improvement Director
Salina Regional Health Center
400 S. Santa Fe, P.O. Box 5080, Salina, KS 67402
Phone: (785) 452-6763
Email: sejohnso@srhc.com

Northwest District Chair

Brandy Born, RN

Director of Risk Management, Infection Control & Education
Graham County Hospital
304 West Prout
Hill City, KS 67642
Phone: (785) 421-2121 Ext: 1230
Email: bborn@gchospital.org

Southwest District Chair

Tina Pendergraft, BSN, RN

Chief Executive Officer
Satanta District Hospital
401 Cheyenne
PO Box 159
Satanta, KS 67870
Phone: (620) 682-8395
Email: tpendergraft@satantahospital.org

Southeast District Chair

Rachel Merrick, RN

Quality Coordinator
Labette Health
1902 South Us Highway 59
Parsons, KS 67357
Phone: (620) 820-5478
Email: rmerrick@labettehealth.com

Southcentral District Chair

Kristin Higbee MSN, RN

Risk Manager
McPherson Hospital
1000 Hospital Drive
McPherson, KS 67420
Phone: 620-241-2251 ext 5209
kristinhigbee@mcphersonhospital.org

KHA Liaison

Ron Marshall

Director, Preparedness & Regulatory Affairs
Kansas Hospital Association
215 SE Eighth Ave
Topeka, KS 66603-3906
Phone: (785) 276-3125
Email: rmarshall@kha-net.org