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Dear Healthcare Professional,

We would like to invite your hospital to join an exciting Global Tracheostomy Collaborative (GTC).

Patients with tracheostomies are at high risk for preventable untoward events. As you know, tracheostomy management is often fragmented. A growing body of literature reflects that patients and families often experience disorganized care and that preventable adverse events are all too common. Simultaneously, some hospitals have shown that by implementing quality initiatives such as truly integrated care, it is possible to radically reduce adverse events.

In order to more rapidly disseminate these improvement strategies, a group of world experts in tracheostomy care and quality improvement was convened by Dr. David Roberson, Otolaryngologist, Harvard and Boston Children's Hospital. Over the past 24 months, the group has created a worldwide quality improvement collaborative. Our committee has representatives from nine countries and the specialties of Otolaryngology, Adult and Paediatric Respiratory Medicine, ICU, Anaesthesiology, Paediatrics, Speech Pathology, and Nursing as well as a family member. The US arm of the GTC was launched in Boston on April 26, 2014. The UK GTC will be launched in London on July 7. We are honoured to have Steven Hawkings speaking at that launch. The Australasian GTC Launch will be in Melbourne on October 8. We would love for you to attend one of these exciting events.

We have created a comprehensive program to help hospitals develop multi-disciplinary teams and care protocols to reduce adverse events. We designed and successfully tested a secure, HIPPA-compliant international database that allows hospitals to track their outcomes, document improvements, and compare their outcomes to other participating hospitals. The attached materials explain how to join the GTC. Please visit www.globaltrach.org for more information.

We would be delighted to tell you more about this project. If you wish to learn more please contact one of us and we can schedule a phone conversation at your convenience.

Best regards,

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