



HONORARY KNIGHTHOOD FOR BOSTON HEALTH POLICY VISIONARY

Award to Donald Berwick to be presented later this year

13 July 2005

Donald M Berwick, MD, MPP, has been appointed an honorary Knight Commander, Order of the British Empire (KBE) by HM The Queen, it has been announced. The award was given to Dr Berwick, who is President and CEO of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI), in recognition of his distinguished service to healthcare improvement in Britain's National Health Service (NHS).



The award is honorary because Dr Berwick is an American citizen. He will receive the honour in a ceremony later this year.

Berwick has worked closely with the NHS since the mid-1990s on projects such as a Modernisation Plan for the UK's health care system. In addition to helping UK health care leaders incorporate and adapt quality improvement methods, Berwick has endeavored to provide an objective viewpoint for UK colleagues. He was involved in the planning for the new National Patient Safety Agency. Berwick is a member of the editorial board of the British Medical Journal and recently became a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians.

Notes for editors:

Donald Berwick is one of the world's leading authorities on health care quality and improvement issues. A member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, he has worked with several IOM committees, including the two that authored the landmark reports, *To Err is Human* and *Crossing the Quality Chasm*. He is also a clinical professor of pediatrics and health care policy at the Harvard Medical School, and author, most recently of *Escape Fire: Designs for the Future of Health Care*. Trained as a pediatrician, Dr Berwick has served on the staff of Children's Hospital in Boston since 1976. A resident of Newton, Massachusetts, he is married and has four children.

The Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) is a not-for-profit organisation leading the improvement of health care throughout the world. Founded in 1991 and based in Cambridge, Massachusetts, IHI is a catalyst for change, cultivating innovative concepts for improving patient care and implementing programs for putting those ideas into action. (www.ihl.org)

The **KBE** is the second (Knight Commander) rank of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, which was established in 1917. Other Americans to have received honorary knighthoods in recent years include Bill Gates, New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani, and Steven Spielberg.



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