

# Remaking American Medicine

## PBS Broadcast Schedule Announced

CIMRO of Nebraska, the Nebraska Medicare Quality Improvement Organization, and Nebraska Educational Television (NET) are working together in support of the upcoming PBS primetime documentary *Remaking American Medicine™...Health Care for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. **The documentary is expected to air in October 2006.**

*Remaking American Medicine*, a four-part PBS series, tells the stories of individuals and institutions struggling to address the often life threatening problems Americans routinely encounter when dealing with the healthcare system and reveal what is being done to provide safer, more effective care.

### Program One - Silent Killer ~ October 5

Every year at least 98,000 Americans die - and countless more are injured - as a result of medical errors. This program begins by profiling the efforts of Sorrel King, whose 18-month-old daughter Josie was killed at one of the most respected hospitals in the world, Johns Hopkins. King has gone from grieving victim to engaged activist, partnering with Johns Hopkins to make safety a top priority at the institution. Now she has joined forces with Dr. Donald Berwick, a nationally recognized patient safety advocate, to save 100,000 lives in American hospitals.

### Program Two - First Do No Harm ~ October 12

This program focuses on the impact of medical errors in two hospitals and follows the efforts of physicians who are challenging their colleagues to live up to their oath to First Do No Harm. In Pittsburgh, Penn., Chief of Medicine Dr. Richard Shannon is confronting an epidemic of hospital-acquired infections that are shattering the lives of their victims. Hackensack University Medical Center in New Jersey is engaged in an effort to totally transform the way the institution delivers care. The goal is to ensure that the people trusted to provide safe and effective medical treatment do not harm patients.

### Program Three - The Stealth Epidemic ~ October 19

Chronic diseases like diabetes and congestive heart failure affect nearly 100 million Americans, and treatment of these illnesses consumes nearly 70 percent of all healthcare resources. Yet doctors are often unable to prevent needless suffering or even death, and these failures are threatening the viability of our entire health care system. This program looks at groundbreaking efforts in two very different communities - Los Angeles, Calif. and Whatcom County in the state of Washington - that are fundamentally transforming the physician-patient relationship...and offers a glimmer of hope for patients across the country who are struggling with their chronic conditions.

### Program Four - Hand in Hand ~ October 26

As medicine continues to become more and more technologically sophisticated and the systems that deliver medical care become more complex, the relationship between providers, patients and families is more important than ever. This final program tells the story of patients and families who have formed a unique bond in a teaching hospital in the small town of Augusta, Georgia, to transform the institution into a nationally recognized facility where partnership is a guiding vision to the care it delivers.

**Information about *Remaking American Medicine* and its campaign efforts are available at [www.RAMcampaign.org](http://www.RAMcampaign.org).**

*To learn more about local coalition and quality improvement efforts, contact Keri McDermott, Communications Director, CIMRO of Nebraska, at 402/476-1399 or via e-mail at [kmcdermott@neqio.sdps.org](mailto:kmcdermott@neqio.sdps.org).*



Resources for better healthcare

