



ASHRM Recognizes Atrium Health for the ASHRM 2021 Patient Safety Award Chicago (September 9, 2021) – The American Society of Health Care Risk Management (ASHRM) granted the ASHRM Patient Safety Award to Atrium Health, based in Charlotte, N.C, for the success of its Product Safety Response Teams (PSRT) during the COVID-19 pandemic. This award recognizes organizational excellence in patient safety and celebrates the efforts of risk management professionals in promoting patient safety across the health care enterprise.

Atrium Health, comprised of 70,000 teammates with 40 hospitals and more than 1,400 care locations, is responsible for nearly 14 million patient interactions annually. The system's PSRTs were based on its experience with a similar program it formed in the wake of 2017's Hurricane Maria to manage medical supply chain fragility. Atrium Health used lessons learned from that experience and continued to develop the PSRTs, transitioning them from an incident command structure to a collaborative one. As the COVID-19 pandemic unfolded in 2020 followed by supply chain disruptions, Atrium Health's PSRTs were well-positioned to manage the disruptions and minimize their impact on patient care and safety. The program was supported by senior leadership, led to more reporting of faulty equipment and products in care settings, boosted staff management of personal protective equipment (PPE) and improved clinician satisfaction during a challenging time for the health care field.

Atrium Health will be recognized at ASHRM's Annual Conference on October 12, 2021.