

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **SMH's Director of Quality & Patient Safety Earns International Certification**

**PLYMOUTH, N.H.** — Kofi Cash, director of quality and patient safety at Speare Memorial Hospital, has met the qualifications and earned the international recognition of Certified Professional in Healthcare Quality (CPHQ).

The CPHQ certification recognizes professional and academic achievement by individuals in the field of healthcare quality management. The program certifies individuals who have acquired a body of knowledge and expertise by passing an accredited written examination demonstrating understanding of: organizational leadership, information management, performance improvement, patient safety, accreditation, case management, utilization management, infection prevention and risk management. There are approximately 6,900 active CPHQs worldwide. The CPHQ is designated by the National Association for Healthcare Quality, the nation's leading association for healthcare quality professionals.



“I am proud to have earned this certification,” says Cash. “The Board of Directors as well as the local community both deserve to have well trained professionals working here at the hospital. This certification represents a vivid example of the effort to pursue this standard. It is a privilege to serve this community and work along side first-rate clinicians. I shall remain diligent in doing my part to ensure patients receive safe, effective, and timely care.”

Cash has been in the field of healthcare improvement for 10 years. Prior to Speare Memorial Hospital, he was a clinical performance improvement consultant for Sutter Health, a non-profit hospital system comprised of 24 acute care hospitals and 15 physician groups in Northern California. In this capacity he was the principal quality liaison for six San Francisco and Oakland metro area hospitals. Cash earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and a master's degree from the Dartmouth Institute of Health Policy and Clinical Practice, Dartmouth Medical School.

Speare Memorial Hospital is a 24-hour, acute care, non-profit community hospital and health care provider serving Plymouth and the communities of central New Hampshire for more than a century. Visit online at [www.spearehospital.com](http://www.spearehospital.com) and join us on Facebook.

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