

# Association for the Healthcare Environment Joins 3M and Founding Partners

Collaborative effort to improve patient safety gains momentum

3M™ and its founding partners are proud to announce that The Association for the Healthcare Environment (AHE) of the American Hospital Association is joining OneTogether: The Power of Small Actions, a multi-year program with the goal of driving individual small actions to collectively generate a significant impact on the incidence of healthcare-associated infections (HAIs). AHE is the fifth organization to join the movement and unites with 3M and founding partners, Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN), International Association of Healthcare Central Service Materiel Management (IAHCSMM), the Surgical Infection Society (SIS) and Practice Greenhealth.

The OneTogether program is designed to amplify individual actions, support collaborative opportunities and engage a network of professionals working toward the same goal of preventing HAIs.

“We are proud to have AHE join us in taking the next step to fight healthcare associated infections,” said Debra Rectenwald, president and general manager of 3M’s Infection Prevention Division. “We believe that AHE will be a valuable asset for the OneTogether movement and in increasing the awareness of this important effort.”

The OneTogether initiative seeks to empower healthcare professionals to bring sustained behaviors to their organizations and elevate the infection prevention conversation within the broader healthcare community.

“AHE is excited to join 3M and the founding partners of the OneTogether initiative. Infection prevention is everyone’s job and emphasizing the power of small everyday actions can contribute greatly to reducing the spread of infection and improving outcomes” said AHE Executive Director Patti Costello.

“We are honored to be a part of this very important and timely initiative, and look forward to spreading the word about OneTogether and encouraging others to join.”

Healthcare providers and Professional organizations interested in joining the OneTogether movement can learn more by visiting [www.joinonetogether.org](http://www.joinonetogether.org).

## About 3M Infection Prevention

3M Infection Prevention Division is truly on a mission to help reduce healthcare-associated infections through its infection prevention solutions. With its system of people, products and processes, 3M remains a trusted partner committed to helping hospitals reduce the risk of infections, improve patient outcomes and control their bottom lines. Learn more at [www.3m.com/infectionprevention](http://www.3m.com/infectionprevention).

## About AORN

AORN represents the interests of more than 160,000 perioperative nurses by providing nursing education, standards and practice resources — including the peer-reviewed, monthly publication AORN Journal — to enable optimal outcomes for patients undergoing operative and other invasive procedures. AORN’s 42,000 registered nurse members manage, teach and practice perioperative nursing, are enrolled in nursing education or are engaged in perioperative research. [www.aorn.org](http://www.aorn.org)

## About IAHCSMM

The International Association of Healthcare Central Service Materiel Management is the premier association for professionals in healthcare central service/materiel management. IAHCSMM provides structural educational

opportunities, professional development and a forum for information exchange to more than 19,000 members worldwide. For more information, visit <http://www.iahcsmm.org>.

#### About SIS

The Surgical Infection Society (SIS) was organized in 1980 and is an organization of physicians, scientists and other health care professionals. The mission of the Surgical Infection Society is to educate health care providers and the public about infection in surgical patients and promote research in the understanding, prevention and management of surgical infections. SIS organizes an annual meeting for the purpose of presenting accepted and award-winning research abstracts, papers and posters. The meeting is centered around the scientific sessions, which function as a forum for exchange of information and ideas and for networking with surgeons at all levels. In addition to member research, SIS publishes position papers and guidelines relating to the treatment of surgical infection in an effort to communicate and educate the greater medical science and clinical community. For more information, see [www.sisna.org](http://www.sisna.org).

#### About Practice Greenhealth

Practice Greenhealth is the nation's leading membership and networking organization for institutions in health care that have made a commitment to sustainable, environmentally friendly practices. To learn more about Practice Greenhealth, visit [www.practicegreenhealth.org](http://www.practicegreenhealth.org).

#### About AHE

The Association for the Healthcare Environment (AHE) of the American Hospital Association is the professional organization of choice for directors and managers caring for the patient and resident care environment across all care settings, including hospitals, long term care, continuing care retirement communities and ambulatory care. AHE represents, defines, and advances the professionals responsible for care of the healthcare environment to ensure quality outcomes and healthy communities. Visit [www.ahe.org](http://www.ahe.org)

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