



Kershner Winners Shine at August Program



ANNA HEJINIAN, MD
Primary care winner
from University
Health Services,
University of Oregon



ASHLEY ARCHER
Surgical/procedural
winner, Knoxville
Ophthalmology
ASC, LLC

During the virtual *Achieving Accreditation* in August, the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC) revealed the winners of the *Bernard A. Kershner Innovations in Quality Improvement (QI) Award*. The annual award presentation shines a spotlight on surgical/procedural and primary care health care organizations across the country for their exemplary QI studies.

The Award, named for the late Bernard A. Kershner, a leader in ambulatory health care and a distinguished past chair of the AAAHC Institute Board of Trustees, recognizes AAAHC-accredited organizations that successfully implement meaningful changes in their operations to boost quality of care, patient safety, and overall efficiency through quality improvement (QI). This prestigious award program celebrates the pursuit of quality improvement in health care delivery.

Conferences & Exhibits

- **TASCS**
Aug 22–23
- **NACHC**
Aug 28–30
- **CASA**
Sep 7–9
- **NAWHC**
Sep 8–9
- **Becker's ASC Business and Operations of ASCs**
Oct 27–28

1095 Learn

- ***Achieving Accreditation Onsite***
Las Vegas, Dec 2–3

For more information about all of our programs, including *Achieving Accreditation*, please [click here](#)

2022 KERSHNER AND PEOPLE'S CHOICE RECIPIENTS

University Health Services, University of Oregon won the award for the primary care category. Its study, "Towards a Culture of Best Practice Antibiotic Stewardship: Treatment of Acute Bronchitis," addressed antibiotic (mis)use in the setting of uncomplicated acute bronchitis. Using data analysis to establish a measurement baseline, the team instituted strategies including patient education and staff communication. By the third year of the study, 89% of students were treated for uncomplicated acute bronchitis without the use of antibiotics, reaching their goal.

Knoxville Ophthalmology ASC, LLC received the Kershner award in the surgical/procedural category for "Prevention of Endophthalmitis." The study focused on preventing postoperative surgical site infections and complications. Following process improvement and continuous monitoring, the facility surpassed the Quality Benchmarking Report average infection rate of 0.223, achieving zero infections.

AAAHC also announced the results for the People's Choice awards which resulted from ballots cast through a secure, monitored platform to ensure integrity of the process. People's Choice honors the two studies garnering the most votes from peer organizations.

Springfield Clinic took the People's Choice award for its study, "Improving Quality Care Gap Closure Rates in the Primary Care Setting." In the surgical/procedural category, the nod went to New York Center for Ambulatory Surgery for "Quality Improvement Study: Clinical Record Compliance Utilizing Preoperative-OR Handoff."

AAAHC thanks all organizations that participated and looks forward to 2023. Submissions opened August 8. Check the AAAHC website for the latest information and links.

Get inspired by past Kershner honorees. View the 2022 study posters and Kershner winners through the years at aaahc.org/quality-institute/kershner-qi-award