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Patrice Spath devotes the majority of her time to educating health care professionals in quality and resource management techniques. Since 1983 Patrice has authored numerous books and journal articles on health care performance improvement and resource management published by her own company, Brown-Spath & Associates, and for the AHA Health Forum, Health Administration Press, the American Health Information Management Association, and other publishers. Her most recent books are *Error Reduction in Health Care*, 2nd ed. (Jossey-Bass, 2011), *Introduction to Healthcare Quality Management*, 2nd ed. (Health Administration Press, 2013), *Fundamentals of Health Care Quality Management*, 4th ed. (Brown-Spath & Associates, 2013) and *Engaging Patients as Safety Partners* (AHA Health Forum, 2008).

In recognition of her many contributions, Patrice was awarded the 1990 Literary Award from the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) and in 1996 was recognized as an outstanding member of the Quality Management Section of the AHIMA. In 1998 she was the winner of the AHIMA Legacy Award Winner for her significant contributions to the knowledge base on the health information management field through articles, chapters, books, and presentations. In 2001 Patrice received the National Association for Healthcare Quality (NAHQ) Award for Excellence in Publication. In 2006 Patrice was awarded the James A. Hamilton Book of the Year Award for her book, *Leading Your Health Care Organization to Excellence*. The award is given annually to the author of a management or healthcare book judged outstanding by the American College of Healthcare Executive's Book of the Year Committee.

Practical experience in quality assurance and utilization management was acquired during her seventeen years at Meridian Park Hospital in Tualatin, Oregon. After serving as assistant director of the Medical Record Department and Tumor Registrar, Patrice assumed the position of Review Coordinator where she designed and implemented hospital-wide quality assurance and utilization review programs.

During the past 30 years, Patrice has designed or participated in as faculty over 300 educational programs on healthcare quality management and utilization control topics. In addition she has completed a number of comprehensive evaluations of quality management/utilization review programs, overall quality management activities and case management initiatives for hospitals and managed care organizations; furnishing them invaluable feedback for system improvements. Since 2004 Patrice has taught online health care quality management courses in undergraduate and graduate HIM and health services administration programs. She currently teaches at the University of Alabama in Birmingham, Oregon Health & Science University, Tougaloo College in Mississippi and Pacific University in Oregon.

Patrice is currently co-chair of the ICD-10 Committee of the Oregon Health Information Management Association. She has been the Treasurer of the NAHQ and a member/chairman of their Certification Board, last serving on the Certification Study Guide task force in 1998. From 1993 to 1995, Patrice served as a regional councilor for the Health Care Division of the American Society for Quality. Patrice was also very active in the Quality Management Section of AHIMA. From 1996-98 she served on the AHIMA Council on Certification, from 1999-2001 served on the AHIMA Council on Accreditation and is currently co-chair of the AHIMA Practice Council on Data Governance and Analytics. She has been a member of several work groups for the American Society for Healthcare Risk Management (ASHRM), most recently serving on their patient safety training module development task group.

In early 1992 she was appointed to serve on a workgroup of the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research to assist in the development of a model for translating their clinical practice guidelines to medical review criteria, performance measures and standards of quality. In the summer of 1995, Patrice served on a Clinical Guidelines Panel sponsored by the Quality Management Institute and Education Center of the Department of Veterans Affairs. In 1997 Patrice served as member of the clinical path task group of the Association of Perioperative Registered Nurses (AORN) and in 2002 she served on a task group charged with updating the AORN quality management practice standards. Since 2002 Patrice has served on the advisory board for WebM&M (<http://webmm.ahrq.gov/>). This online case-based journal and forum on patient safety and healthcare quality is sponsored by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ).