

Tampa, Florida—Surgical Safety Institute, a leading provider of healthcare risk, quality and patient safety training and consulting services, announced that it has been listed as a Patient Safety Organization (PSO) by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) effective March 18, 2009. Patient Safety Organizations were created by the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2005 (Patient Safety Act),.

In the past, physicians, other clinicians, and health care organizations have been reluctant to participate in external error reporting programs or data sharing for safety improvement purposes, for fear of legal liability. Surgical Safety Institute's status as a PSO offers healthcare clients the opportunity to participate in patient safety and quality improvement efforts without risk of losing protection of data confidentiality or fearing discovery in the case of potential litigation. "This designation will allow us to obtain more and better information in order for us to make the most comprehensive recommendations for patient safety with our clients." stated Dr. Richard Karl, Founder and Chairman of the Surgical Safety Institute.

#### About Surgical Safety Institute

Surgical Safety Institute. is a Tampa-based patient safety organization that provides consulting, training and a variety of safety tools to healthcare entities. It was founded on the premise that commercial aviation safety methods can be used in healthcare to dramatically reduce medical errors.

Those seeking further information about Surgical Safety Institute are asked to visit the Surgical Safety Institute Website at [www.surgicalsafetyinstitute.com](http://www.surgicalsafetyinstitute.com) or call at 813-545-4198