Appendix A: CNO Letter

September 15, 2015

Dear Colleagues,

Each of our organizations participated in the American Association of Critical Care Nurses (AACN) Clinical Scene Investigator (CSI) Academy. As you know, the AACN CSI academy was developed to engage bedside critical care nurses in improving clinical, organizational, and financial outcomes by focusing on issues particular to critically ill patients, such as early mobility, pressure ulcer reduction, delirium, and family engagement.

Although, our official participation with the AACN CSI academy ended on April 24, 2014, the leadership work of the CSI participants has only just begun. The individual CSI teams have continued to work within their units and organizations to build upon and scale out their initiatives. Recognizing the power of collaboration among CSIs across various organizations, the CSIs discussed the possibilities for continuing to work together as a cohort even after the end of the CSI academy. With this goal in mind, and with the encouragement of AACN, the CSI’s came together for an initial meeting to explore this possibility in March of 2015. During this meeting the group set forth the goal of forming a collaborative of the original CSI team members working together to develop initiatives to improve outcomes. The group further identified ICU delirium as the initial area of focus for their work.

AACN has taken particular interest in this collaborative, and is offering their endorsement for this work, including the support of Marian Altman the AACN Clinical Practice Specialist who is able to serve as a mentor for the team. AACN also endorsed the group’s formal alignment with the CSI academy through the use of the name “The Massachusetts CSI Delirium Collaborative (MCNDC).” Following the design of the CSI academy, the MCNDC promises to be a vehicle not just for facilitating projects with a high potential for impact, but also for the further development of the CSIs and the expansion of the AACN’s CSI program fundamentals to other front-line staff throughout our organization.

We are asking for your support of the MCNDC. We anticipate that this work will require a time commitment similar to the original CSI program including cohort meetings which will be held 9am to 3 pm on the 2nd Wednesday of every month, and 4-8 hours per month of protected time for planning and implementing projects at the local level. We would also welcome the opportunity to rotate the location of the meetings across our organizations and if possible, to provide lunch for the group on the day of the meeting. We are excited about the opportunity to expand the outcomes of the CSI program, and hope that we can count on your support for this innovative work.

Best regards,