

# SAFETY TIPS FROM A TOP-RATED FACILITY

Riverside Medical Center in Southern California reduced its workplace injury rate to an all-time low in 2012, becoming one of KP’s safest hospitals and earning the 2013 Kaiser Permanente President’s Workplace Safety Award. Successful practices at Riverside and other top-performing facilities include:

- 1 Have a Workplace Safety Steering Committee and its subcommittees focus on specific hazard areas (for example, sharps safety or patient handling). In the past, committees lacked clear responsibility.
- 2 Develop and consistently use work plans to ensure accountability for progress on safety goals.
- 3 Create an environment of safety in which everyone feels comfortable raising a concern.
- 4 Empower all team members to call a stop to the work when they perceive an imminent danger.
- 5 Hold weekly incident data-analysis meetings and ensure root causes of incidents are identified and addressed.
- 6 Encourage departments to develop their own “safety always” rules and principles.
- 7 Find fun and creative ways to engage employees: Riverside’s safety mascots—Ergo Man, Safety Queen and Kid Safety—attend PSP and UBT fairs to spread messages about working safely.

**For more information, see Riverside’s National Workplace Safety Summit presentation.**