



## MAPS Team Biography

**Helga Brake, PharmD, CPHQ, CPPS**  
**Vice President, Illinois Health and Hospital Association**  
**Director, The Midwest Alliance for Patient Safety PSO**

Helga Brake currently holds the position of Vice President for the Illinois Health and Hospital Association where her responsibility focuses on leading improvement efforts within the Institute for Innovations in Care and Quality including the Illinois Partnership for Patients Hospital Engagement Network as well as leading The Midwest Alliance for Patient Safety, a federally-certified Patient Safety Organization.

Helga has been with the Illinois Hospital Association since March 2014 and was previously with Northwestern Memorial Hospital, an academic medical center, since 2008, as Manager of Patient Safety. She was actively involved in patient safety initiatives, systems improvements and change management, and led multidisciplinary teams to define, measure, analyze, and improve clinical performance related to national and local initiatives and practice concerns.

Prior to her affiliation with Northwestern Memorial Hospital, she was a Clinical Process Improvement Project Manager at the University HealthSystem Consortium where she led national interdisciplinary clinical benchmarking projects and developed performance measures and metrics based on evidence-based literature and clinical guidelines.

Helga received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree in 2003 from the Chicago College of Pharmacy at Midwestern University in Illinois and holds a BS degree in Business Management from Northern Illinois University. Helga is a member of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists, the National Society for Healthcare Quality, and the American Society of Professionals in Patient Safety. She is an AHA-NPSF Patient Safety Leadership Fellow, and, in 2013 and 2014, was named 1 of 50 experts leading the field of patient safety by Becker's Hospital Review.

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