

BOARD OF TRUSTEES Governance Committee

Tuesday, October 27, 2026 | 10:45 AM
4800 Fournace Place, Bellaire, Texas 77401 | 1st Floor Board Room

*Notice: The meeting may be viewed online at: <http://harrishealthtx.swagit.com/live>,
and some Board Members may participate via videoconference.*

Mission

Harris Health is a public, integrated health system dedicated to improving the health of our communities by delivering high-quality, person-centered care in collaboration with community and academic partners.

AGENDA

I. Call to Order and Record of Attendance	Ms. Sima Ladjevardian	2 mins
II. Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meeting	Ms. Sima Ladjevardian	2 mins
• Governance Committee – August 25, 2026		
III. Discussion Regarding Election of Board Officers	Ms. Sima Ladjevardian	5 mins
IV. Discussion and Consideration of Recommendation for Approval of the Harris Health Board of Trustees Standard Operating Procedures – Ms. Sara Thomas		25 mins
V. Discussion Regarding the Process for the 2026 Board Self-Assessment – Ms. Olga Rodriguez		5 mins
VI. Discussion and Consideration of Recommendation for Approval of the Proposed 2027 Board Calendar – Ms. Olga Rodriguez		5 mins
VII. Adjournment	Ms. Sima Ladjevardian	1 min

HARRIS HEALTH
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, August 25, 2026
10:45 A.M.

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION/RECOMMENDATIONS
I. Call to Order and Record of Attendance	Ms. Sima Ladjevardian, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:48 A.M. It was noted there was a quorum present, and the attendance was recorded. The meeting may be viewed online through the Harris Health website: http://harrishealthtx.swagit.com/live .	
II. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting Governance Committee Meeting – April 21, 2026	Ms. Ladjevardian presented the minutes of the Governance Committee meeting held on April 21, 2026 for approval. A copy of the minutes is available in the permanent record.	Moved by Ms. Carol Paret, seconded by Ms. Sima Ladjevardian, and unanimously approved the minutes of the April 21, 2026 meeting. Motion carried.
III. Review and Recommendation of Approval of Revisions to Policy 2.02, Participation in Board Meetings and Board Committee Meetings via Videoconference Call	Ms. Sara Thomas, Chief Legal Officer, presented proposed revisions to Policy 2.02, Participation in Board Meetings and Board Committee Meetings via Videoconference Call. Ms. Thomas noted that the revisions primarily consisted of clarification, removal of duplicative language, and updates to reflect the current practice of Board and Committee meetings. She highlighted the removal of the previous maximum of two Board members permitted to participate via videoconference and explained that remote participation would instead be subject to coordination of attendance and the presence of a quorum. Ms. Thomas further discussed proposed procedures for documenting remote participation, including recording the time a Board member joins and leaves a meeting and noting when a remote Board member is not present for a portion of the meeting due to being off camera. Following discussion, the Committee expressed support for the proposed revisions. Copies of both revised policies are available in the permanent record.	As discussed.

IV. Presentation Regarding AI Governance for Harris Health Board Members	Ms. Thomas delivered a presentation regarding artificial intelligence (AI) Governance for Harris Health Board members, with the objective of preparing the Board for future discussions regarding the responsible and strategic governance of AI. Ms. Thomas noted that Harris Health has taken a governance-first approach to AI and has engaged cross-functional leadership in developing an organizational framework for AI oversight. She emphasized that, as a public safety-net health system, Harris Health has unique responsibilities related to transparency, accountability, fairness, stewardship, privacy, security, and responsible use of emerging technologies. Mr. Sebastian Berry, Assistant General Counsel, discussed the evolving federal and Texas legal and regulatory landscape applicable to AI and highlighted the significance of Texas Senate Bill 1964 and other legislation affecting governmental entities and Harris Health’s business partners. She described Harris Health’s developing AI governance structure, including strategy and guardrails, intake and inventory processes, risk-based assessments, decision and approval gates, and ongoing monitoring and reassessment of AI systems. Mr. Berry also emphasized the importance of identifying AI use throughout the organization, including through procurement, vendor relationships, contract renewals, and software updates, and ensuring that appropriate clinical, operational, legal, privacy, security, and compliance perspectives are incorporated into decision-making. Ms. Thomas presented a series of questions intended to assist Board members in approaching future AI discussions from a governance and oversight perspective. Committee members discussed the need for practical examples of AI use cases and additional information regarding potential risks, including bias in AI systems used by vendors and contractors. It was noted that the AI presentation to the full Board is anticipated to provide additional information regarding Harris Health’s current and future AI initiatives.	As presented.
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V. Review of Harris Health Standard Operating Procedures	Ms. Thomas led the Committee’s review of revisions to the Harris Health Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). She noted that the revisions were developed following review of the Governance Committee’s procedures and were intended to provide greater clarity regarding Board governance responsibilities and expectations. Ms. Thomas highlighted revisions clarifying the Board’s fiduciary duties to include oversight, loyalty, care, and obedience, consistent with prior governance education provided to the Board. Ms. Thomas also noted revisions clarifying the distinction between Board governance responsibilities and management responsibilities. The SOPs were further revised to emphasize the importance of governance education and to encourage Board members to complete the Certified Healthcare Trustee and Leader certification process. The Committee discussed additional revisions addressing Board attendance, including an expectation that Board members attend a specified percentage of meetings in person, as well as procedures for documenting attendance, remote participation, voting, abstentions, and absences in the meeting minutes. Ms. Elizabeth Hanshaw Winn, Board Parliamentarian, provided a brief history of how attendance was captured in past Board minutes and gave examples of how future minutes could reflect absences, depending on Board members' preference. Committee members discussed the potential benefits of documenting individual votes and attendance while also recognizing the additional time and administrative requirements associated with more detailed reporting. The Committee discussed whether the SOPs should establish an expectation that Board members attend at least 50 percent of meetings in person and whether Board members should acknowledge receipt and review of the SOPs. The Committee generally expressed support for strengthening the language regarding in-person attendance and acknowledgment of the SOPs. A copy of the revised SOPs is available in the permanent record.	As discussed.
VI. Discussion Regarding the Texas Healthcare Trustees Certified Healthcare Trustee and Leader Certification	Ms. Ladjevardian led a discussion regarding the Texas Healthcare Trustees (THT) Certified Healthcare Trustee and Leader certification. She noted the importance of Board members completing the certification as part of their governance education and development. The Committee discussed providing an opportunity for Board members to remain for approximately 30 minutes following Board meetings to work on the certification, subject to applicable meeting and attendance limitations. It was noted that links and additional information would be provided to facilitate completion of the certification process.	As discussed.

VII. Adjournment	There being no further business and without objection from the Members of the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 11:53 A.M.	
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I certify that the foregoing are the Minutes of the Meeting of the Governance Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Harris Health held on August 25, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Sima Ladjevardian, JD, Committee Chair

Recorded by Cherry A. Joseph, MBA

Board of Trustees
Governance Committee | Tuesday, August 25, 2026
ATTENDANCE RECORD

PRESENT BOARD COMMITTEE MEMBERS	ABSENT BOARD COMMITTEE MEMBERS	OTHER PRESENT BOARD MEMBERS
Carol Paret, BS	Libby Viera-Bland, AICP	
Sima Ladjevardian, JD (<i>Committee Chair</i>)	Marlen Trujillo, PhD, MBA, CHW	

PRESENT EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP, STAFF & GUESTS	
Alexander Barrie	Jennifer Zarate
Carolynn Jones	John Matcek
Chase Hubbard (<i>Intern, Harris County Attorney's Office</i>)	Lindsay Lanagan
Cherry Joseph	Lindsey Katie Rutherford
Cornelius Sebastian Berry (<i>Harris County Attorney's Office</i>)	Maria Cowles
Daniel Smith	Randy Manarang
Ebon Swofford (<i>Harris County Attorney's Office</i>)	Sara Thomas (<i>Harris County Attorney's Office</i>)
Elizabeth Hanshaw Winn	Shawn DeCosta
Esmaeil Porsa (<i>President & Chief Executive Officer</i>)	

Virtual Attendee Notice: If you joined as a group and would like your attendance to be added to the official record, please submit an email to: BoardofTrustees@harrishealth.org before the close of business on the day of the meeting.

Tuesday, October 27, 2026

Discussion Regarding Election of Board Officers

A copy of the Board adopted process is attached for your review.



L. Sara Thomas
Chief Legal Officer/Division Director
Harris County Attorney's Office
Harris Health

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Tuesday, October 27, 2026

Discussion and Consideration of Recommendation for Approval of the Harris Health
Board of Trustees Standard Operating Procedures

A copy of the revised Harris Health Board of Trustees Standard Operating Procedures is attached for your review.

Listed below is a summary of the revisions:

- Fiduciary Duties: Clarifies that the Board's fiduciary duties include oversight, loyalty, care, and obedience.
- Board Governance: Expands language related to Board governance responsibilities of oversight versus day-to-day management and encourages continuing board education and completion of THT certification.
- Board Meeting Attendance: Establishes expectations for in-person attendance and tracking of attendance, arrivals, departures, and absences.
- Board Correspondence: Establishes a process for logging and routing Board correspondence, with Board Officer involvement in determining distribution to the Board.
- Voting: Requires Board members to clearly state abstentions when warranted
- AI Use: Provides instructions to Board members related to AI use



L. Sara Thomas
Chief Legal Officer/Division Director
Harris County Attorney's Office
Harris Health

Board of Trustees Standard Operating Procedures

1. Harris County Hospital District d/b/a Harris Health System (Harris Health) is a political subdivision and unit of local government of the State of Texas created pursuant to the Texas Constitution, Article 9, Section 4 of the Texas Constitution for the purposes of delivering medical and hospital care to the needy inhabitants of Harris County and organized under the laws of the State of Texas. Pursuant to Chapter 281 of the Texas Health and Safety Code, Harris Health shall have a Board appointed by the Harris County Commissioners Court to serve as its governing body.
2. The Harris Health Board of Trustees adopts and implements these Board Standard Operating Procedures to outline the procedural rules for the performance of the Board's duties, including complying with the Bylaws and, where applicable, Board policies.
3. A Board Member is a fiduciary, [which includes the duties of oversight, loyalty, care, and obedience](#). As such, a Board member owes allegiance to Harris Health System with the recognition that it is an entity serving the public and must act in the best interest of the entity and the patients it serves when acting in his or her official capacity. While Board members are appointed by a specific Commissioner or the County Judge, their duty is to the Harris Health System as a whole. A Board member must always exercise honest and unbiased judgment in pursuit of Harris Health's interests.
4. A Board Member's duty of oversight requires Board members to focus on governance, compliance, patient safety, financial stewardship, and organizational accountability rather than day-to-day management responsibilities; however, his or her primary obligation is to participate in the governance of Harris Health and to act within the boundaries of his or her governance authority. [Harris Health values the importance of governance education and strongly encourages each Board Member to complete the Certified Healthcare Trustee and Leader certification process](#). The Harris Health President/CEO is responsible for matters related to operations and administration as defined in the Bylaws of the Board of Trustees ("Bylaws"), Chapter 281 of the Texas Health and Safety Code, applicable law regulations, and policies.
5. Board Members must comply with all applicable laws, regulations, and policies. Questions related to the applicability of Harris Health policy may be directed to Harris Health's Chief Legal Officer or Harris Health's EVP Chief Compliance and Risk Officer.
6. When appointed, a Board Member is expected to attend the Board of Trustees' orientation and become knowledgeable of the Bylaws and the hospital district's responsibilities.
7. A Board Member is expected to attend Board meetings and applicable committee meetings and review and evaluate background materials contained in the appropriate "agenda book" published through the Board's secure online portal. [Pursuant to Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code \("Texas Open Meetings Act"\), public meetings such as the Harris Health Board and Committee Meetings cannot occur without a quorum of Board Members attending in person. Therefore, to prevent the cancellation of these meetings, each member is expected](#)

to attend in person, barring extenuating circumstances, and by the adoption of these Board Standard Operating Procedures, Board Members hereby acknowledge and understand that attendance records, including the time of arrival and departure, along with absences as defined by Board Policy No. 2.02, related to Participation in Meetings by Video Conference, shall be maintained by Board Office staff and also reflected in the meeting minutes.

8. A Board Member is entitled to rely upon information, opinions, reports, and statements prepared or presented by Harris Health staff, counsel, accountants, or other Board Members whom the Board Member reasonably believes to be reliable and competent in the matter presented. Board members should request additional deliverables through parliamentary motions during Board and committee meetings when matters require additional inquiry.
9. Individual Board Members are not empowered to provide instructions to the CEO of Harris Health or any Harris Health employee unless the Board determines, during a properly called meeting of the Board of Trustees, that such instruction will enable the Board to satisfy their fiduciary duties (e.g., instructions to produce information material to a future Board decision). Board members who require additional information to fulfill their duty of care outside of a Board or Committee meeting should coordinate requests through one of the following channels:
 - a. Harris Health's Chief Executive Officer for matters related to Harris Health administration.
 - b. Harris Health's Chief Legal Officer for legal advice and consultation.
 - c. Harris Health's EVP Chief Compliance and Risk Officer related to compliance matters and reporting allegations.
 - d. The Board Office for coordination of all other matters and meetings not involving the CEO, Chief Legal Officer and EVP Chief Compliance and Risk Officer.

Written material or additional deliverables provided to individual board members outside of Board or Committee meetings shall be made available to all Board members through the Board's secure online portal. The Board Office shall log all incoming correspondence addressed to the Board of Trustees, distribute such correspondence to the appropriate Harris Health department or function as needed, and confer with the Board Officers to determine which correspondence should be provided to members of the Board of Trustees.

10. Board meetings are managed and conducted in a way that promotes transparency and high levels of effectiveness and efficiency while complying with the Texas Open Meetings Act and allowing for appropriate questions. Pursuant to the Bylaws, meetings are conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.
11. A Board Member must not disclose any information learned in the course of a closed session meeting or any confidential material supplied by Harris Health. If a Board Member is uncertain whether information is confidential, the Board Member should consult with Harris Health's legal counsel to avoid allegations of abuse of office. Violations of the Texas Open Meetings Act could result in civil and criminal penalties.
12. A Board member should listen to and respect the opinions and perspectives of all other members, be willing to respectfully express a dissenting opinion, and vote no when their opinion warrants, and clearly state any abstentions from voting when warranted.

13. A Board Member should bring matters of interest to the attention of the Board Chair or applicable Committee Chair at least twelve (12) days before the date of the Board or Committee meeting so appropriate matters can be included on the agenda of a future Board or Committee meeting. Board officers and Committee Chairs are encouraged to participate in reviewing and finalizing draft Board and Committee agendas with Administration as part of the agenda planning process. Committee Chairs may work directly with Committee Executive sponsors as part of the committee agenda planning process. The Board Chair and Board Officers may exercise discretion and professional judgment during the agenda planning process.
14. The Board employs and evaluates the President and Chief Executive Officer ("CEO"). The Board delegates authority to the CEO to direct Harris Health's affairs (including supervising its work and activities, formulating strategies, and managing its operations) and communicates policies and decisions that may constrain the CEO's authority.
15. The Board's authority is carried out through actions taken by a majority of the Board who are present and voting during a duly called meeting of the Board of Trustees. If a Board member is absent for a meeting, actions and decisions made will not automatically be reconsidered due to the Board member's absence.
16. The Board speaks with one voice through the Board Chair unless otherwise authorized by the Board Chair or the Board.
17. A Board Member may direct all media requests to the Board Chair and must inform the Board Office or Harris Health's Office of Corporate Communications at (346) 426-1832.
18. A Board Member must not enter or upload confidential, privileged, or other nonpublic Harris Health information into any artificial intelligence tool, including agents, unless Harris Health has approved the tool and its use. Questions regarding this topic should be directed to the Board Office.

Tuesday, October 27, 2026

Discussion and Consideration of Recommendation for Approval of the Proposed
2027 Board Calendar



Olga L. Rodriguez

VP – Community Engagement & Board Services

Board of Trustees 2027 Board Calendar

MONTHLY MEETINGS		BI-MONTHLY MEETINGS		QUARTERLY MEETINGS	
BOARD (9:00 AM-1:00 PM)		GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (10:45-11:45 AM)		ASC AT LBJ GOVERNING BODY (10:30-11:00 AM)	
JANUARY 20, 2027	JULY 21, 2027	FEBRUARY 2, 2027	AUGUST 3, 2027	MARCH 4, 2027	SEPTEMBER 2, 2027
FEBRUARY 17, 2027	AUGUST 18, 2027	APRIL 6, 2027	OCTOBER 5, 2027	JUNE 3, 2027	DECEMBER 2, 2027
MARCH 17, 2027	SEPTEMBER 15, 2027	JUNE 1, 2027		DC AT QM GOVERNING BODY (11:15-11:45 AM)	
APRIL 21, 2027	OCTOBER 20, 2027	JOINT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE (12:00-1:00 PM)		MARCH 4, 2027	SEPTEMBER 2, 2027
MAY 19, 2027	DECEMBER 8, 2027	FEBRUARY 4, 2027	AUGUST 5, 2027	JUNE 3, 2027	DECEMBER 2, 2027
JUNE 16, 2027		APRIL 8, 2027	OCTOBER 7, 2027	BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE (9:00-10:00 AM)	
QUALITY COMMITTEE (12:00-1:30 PM)		JUNE 3, 2027		FEBRUARY 4, 2027	NOVEMBER 4, 2027
JANUARY 5, 2027	JUNE 1, 2027	MISCELLANEOUS		MAY 6, 2027	
FEBRUARY 2, 2027	AUGUST 3, 2027	SPECIAL CALL BOARD		COMPLIANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE (10:15-11:45 AM)	
MARCH 2, 2027	SEPTEMBER 7, 2027	NOVEMBER 4, 2027: HRSA (10:15-10:45 AM)		FEBRUARY 4, 2027	AUGUST 5, 2027
APRIL 6, 2027	OCTOBER 5, 2027	SPECIAL EVENTS		MAY 6, 2027	OCTOBER 7, 2027
MAY 4, 2027		AUGUST 2, 2027: BUDGET WORKSHOP (10 AM-12 PM)			
		JUNE 24-26, 2027: THT Healthcare Governance Conf.			

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL							MAY							JUNE						
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HARRIS HEALTH HOLIDAY CLOSURES:							01/01/27 (New Year's Day)							05/31/27 (Memorial Day)							07/05/27 (Observed: Independence Day)							11/25/27 (Thanksgiving)							12/24/27 (Observed: Christmas)						
							01/18/27 (MLK)							06/18/27 (Observed: Juneteenth)							09/06/27 (Labor Day)							11/26/27 (Fri. After Thanksgiving)							12/31/27 (Observed: New Year)						

BOARD OF TRUSTEES Quality Committee

Tuesday, October 27, 2026 | 12:00 PM
(or immediately following the Governance Committee)

4800 Fournace Place, Bellaire, Texas 77401 | 1st Floor Board Room

*Notice: The meeting may be viewed online at: <http://harrishealthtx.swagit.com/live>,
and some Board Members may participate via videoconference.*

MISSION

Harris Health is a public, integrated health system dedicated to improving the health of our communities by delivering high-quality, person-centered care in collaboration with community and academic partners.

AGENDA

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| I. Call to Order and Record of Attendance | Dr. Andrea Caracostis 1 min |
| II. <u>Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meeting</u> | Dr. Andrea Caracostis 2 mins |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality Committee Meeting – September 22, 2026 | |
| III. <u>Harris Health Safety Message: Minute for Medicine Video – Dr. Thomas Cummins</u> | 5 mins |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post Operative Infection Prevention | |
| IV. <u>Presentation Regarding the 2026 Annual Research and Quality Improvement Projects Report – Ms. Jessey Thomas and Dr. Elisa Jolls</u> | 5 mins |
| V. Executive Session | Dr. Andrea Caracostis 75 mins |
| A. <u>Report Regarding Quality of Medical and Healthcare, Pursuant to Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §§151.002, 160.007 and Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032, to Receive Peer Review and/or Medical Committee Reports in Connection with the Evaluation of the Quality of Medical and Healthcare Services, Including Report Regarding Harris Health Quality Review Councils, and Possible Action Regarding this Matter Upon Return to Open Session – Dr. Thomas Cummins</u> | (65 mins) |
| B. <u>Report by the Executive Vice President, Chief Compliance and Risk Officer, Regarding Compliance with Medicare, Medicaid, HIPAA and Other Federal and State Health Care Program Requirements and a Status of Fraud and Abuse Investigations, Pursuant to Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032, Including Consideration of Recommendation for Approval of the Fiscal Year 2027 Internal Quality Audit Plan Upon Return to Open Session – Ms.Carolynn Jones</u> | (10 mins) |
| VI. Reconvene | Dr. Andrea Caracostis 1 min |
| VII. Adjournment | Dr. Andrea Caracostis 1 min |

HARRIS HEALTH
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
QUALITY COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, September 22, 2026
12:00 PM

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION/RECOMMENDATIONS
I. Call to Order and Record of Attendance	Ms. Libby Viera - Bland, Presiding Officer, called the meeting to order at 12:03 P.M. It was noted there was a quorum present, and the attendance was recorded. The meeting may be viewed online through the Harris Health website: http://harrishealthtx.swagit.com/live .	
II. Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meeting Quality Committee Meeting – August 25, 2026	Ms. Viera – Bland presented the minutes of the Quality Committee meeting held on August 25, 2026 for approval. A copy of the minutes is available in the permanent record.	Moved by Dr. Shubhada Hooli, seconded by Dr. Marlen Trujillo, and unanimously approved the minutes of the August 25, 2026, meeting. Motion carried.
III. Harris Health Safety Message: Minute for Medicine Video Central Line Associated Bloodstream Infection (CLABSI)	Dr. Thomas Cummins, Executive Vice President & Chief Medical Executive, introduced the Harris Health Safety Message, a Minute for Medicine video regarding Central Line Associated Bloodstream Infection (CLABSI). The video highlighted that CLABSIs account for approximately one-third of hospital-acquired infection deaths and result in more than \$1 billion in annual costs. The presentation emphasized that evidence-based practices, checklists, transparent data reporting, and ongoing staff education remain essential to preventing these infections and improving patient safety. A copy of the video series is included in the permanent record.	As Presented.
IV. Executive Session	At 12:07 p.m., Ms. Viera – Bland stated that the Quality Committee of the Board of Trustees would go into Executive Session for items IV. 'A and B' as permitted by law under Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §§151.002 and 160.007 and Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032.	

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION/RECOMMENDATIONS
A. Report Regarding Quality of Medical and Healthcare, Pursuant to Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §§151.002, 160.007 and Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032, to Receive Peer Review and/or Medical Committee Reports in Connection with the Evaluation of the Quality of Medical and Healthcare Services, Including Report Regarding Harris Health Quality Review Councils, and Possible Action Regarding this Matter Upon Return to Open Session		No Action Taken.
B. Report by the Executive Vice President, Chief Compliance and Risk Officer, Regarding Compliance with Medicare, Medicaid, HIPAA and Other Federal and State Health Care Program Requirements and a Status of Fraud and Abuse Investigations, Pursuant to Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032, and Possible Action Regarding this Matter Upon Return to Open Session		No Action Taken.

V. Reconvene	At 1:26 p.m., Ms. Viera – Bland reconvened the meeting in open session; she noted that a quorum was present and that no action was taken in Executive Session.	
VI. Adjournment	There being no further business and without objection from the Members of the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 1:26 p.m.	

I certify that the foregoing are the Minutes of the Meeting of the Quality Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Harris Health System held on September 22, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Libby Viera – Bland, AICP, Presiding Officer,
In lieu of Andrea Caracostis, MD, MPH, Committee Chair

Recorded by Cherry A. Joseph, MBA

Board of Trustees
Quality Committee I Tuesday, September 22, 2026
ATTENDANCE RECORD

PRESENT BOARD COMMITTEE MEMBERS	ABSENT BOARD COMMITTEE MEMBERS	OTHER PRESENT BOARD MEMBERS
Libby Viera-Bland, AICP	Andrea Caracostis, MD, MPH (<i>Committee Chair</i>)	
Marlen Trujillo, PhD, MBA, CHW		
Shubhada Hooli, MD, MPH		

PRESENT EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP, STAFF & GUESTS	
Alexander Barrie	Kiki Teal
Amineh Kostov	Lindsay Lanagan
Dr. Amy Smith	Louis Smith
Anthony Williams	Maria Cowles
Dr. Asim Shah	Dr. Matasha Russell
Berrlyn Nelson	Dr. Michael Nnadi
Cherry Joseph	Naomi Lockett
Daniel Smith	Randy Manarang
Debbie Chacko	Dr. Sandeep Markan
Ebon Swofford (<i>Harris County Attorney's Office</i>)	Sara Thomas (<i>Harris County Attorney's Office</i>)
Dr. Glorimar Medina	Shawn DeCosta
Ja' Porsha Comeaux	Suzanne Lundeen
Dr. Jackie Brock	Dr. Thomas Cummins
Dr. Jennifer Small	Dr. Tien Ko
Jennifer Zarate	Tiffani Dusang
Jerald Summers	Vivian Ho-Nguyen
John Matcek	Dr. Yashwant Chathampally
Dr. Joseph Kunisch	

Virtual Attendee Notice: If you joined as a group and would like your attendance to be added to the official record, please submit an email to: BoardofTrustees@harrishealth.org before the close of business on the day of the meeting.

Tuesday, October 27, 2026

Harris Health Safety Message: Minute for Medicine Video

Minute for Medicine Video:

- Post Operative Infection Prevention



Yashwant Chathampally, MD, MSc
Associate CMO & SVP – Quality & Patient Safety

High Reliability Organization (HRO) Safety Message

Post Operative Infection Prevention

**Thomas Cummins, MD, MMM
EVP, Chief Medical Executive**

**Board of Trustees Quality Committee
October 27, 2026**

HARRISHEALTH



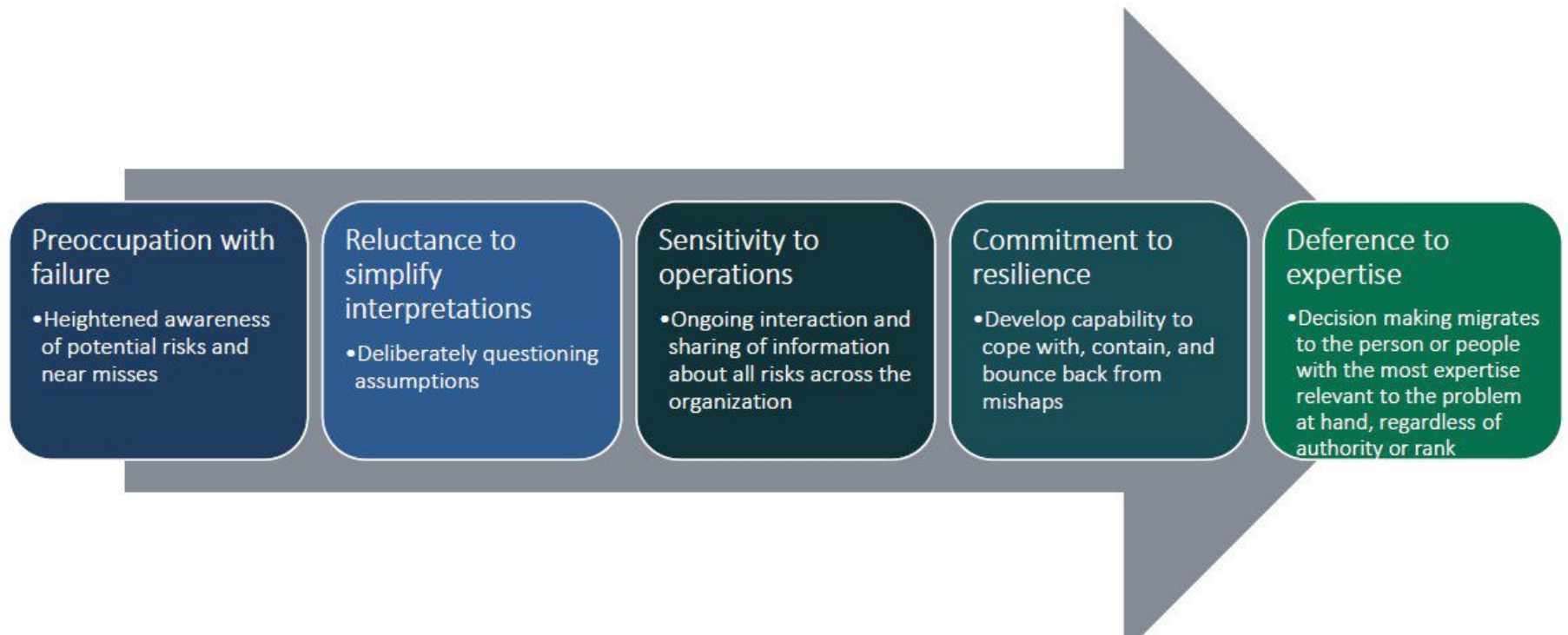
SAFETY MESSAGE

HARRIS | ZERO
HEALTH | HARM

SAFETY 1ST. ALWAYS.

HARRISHEALTH

Five Principles of a High Reliability Organization



HRO Video:

Harris Health Minute For Medicine:

- Minute For Medicine: Post Operative Infection Prevention
- <https://youtu.be/auqd-mldxHg>

Tuesday, October 27, 2026

Presentation Regarding the 2026 Annual Research and Quality Improvement
Projects Report

Minute for Medicine Video:

- Post Operative Infection Prevention



Yashwant Chathampally, MD, MSc
Associate CMO & SVP – Quality & Patient Safety

Annual Research & Quality Improvement Projects Report

**Jessey Thomas, MBA, MSN, RN, CSMP
SVP, Medical Affairs**

**Elisa Jolls, EdD, MBA, CIP
VP, Research & Sponsored Programs**

**Board of Trustees Quality Committee
October 27, 2026**

HARRISHEALTH

Harris Health & UTH Research & Quality Improvement Day - 10/21/2026

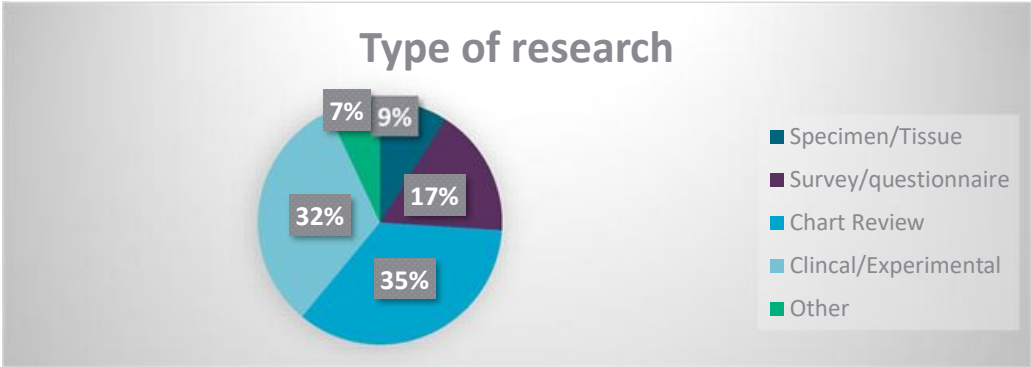


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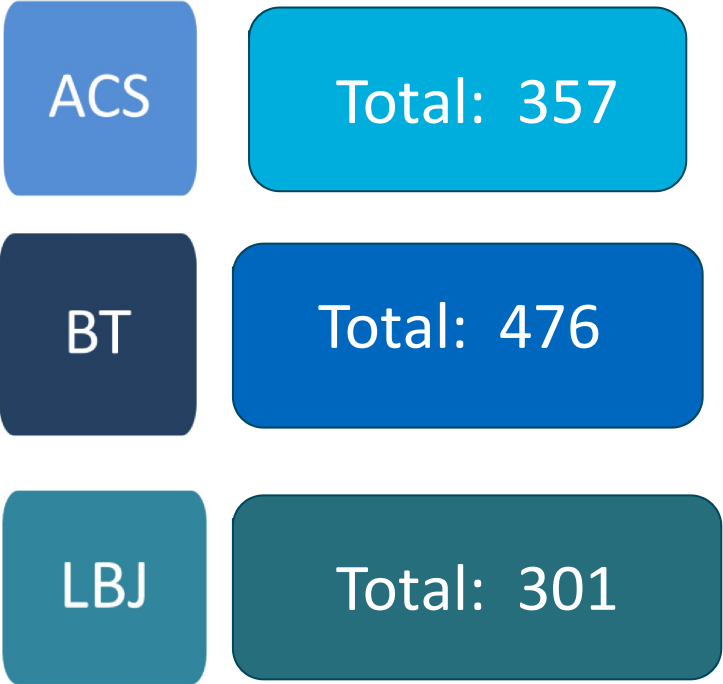
Volume of Currently Approved Research Studies



Total Number of Approved Studies

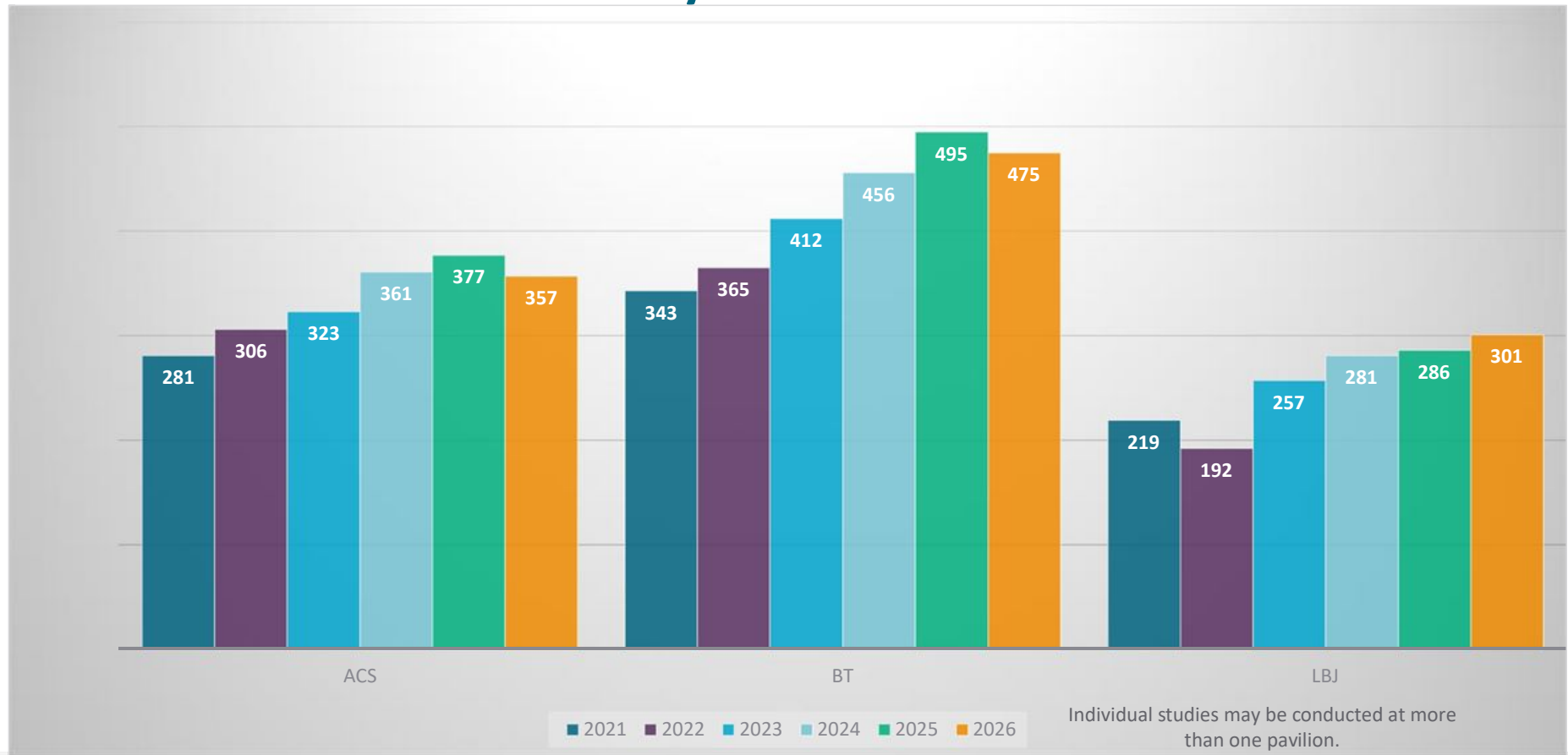


Individual studies may be conducted at more than one pavilion.



*Data from 9-1-2026 monthly pavilion reports

Research by Pavilion: 2021-2026



Ben Taub/BCM Research Project	LBJ/UTH Research Project	ACS/BCM & UT MDA Research Project
Menopause May Partially Explain Age-Related Increased Risk of MASLD Fibrosis: A Causal Mediation Analysis	IL-1 receptor antagonist reduces pain sensitivity and enhances brain endorphin release during a standardized, experimental, acute pain challenge: A BESH clinical trial	Self-Collection for Cervical Cancer Screening in a Safety-Net Setting: The PRESTIS Randomized Clinical Trial
Study: Researchers analyzed 187 women with metabolic dysfunction-associated steatotic liver disease (MASLD) to determine whether menopause helps explain the increased risk of advanced liver fibrosis seen with aging. Findings: Menopause accounted for approximately 51% of the association between older age and advanced liver fibrosis, suggesting that hormonal changes related to menopause may play a significant role in disease progression and could help identify women at higher risk for severe liver disease	Study: This clinical trial evaluated whether intravenous anakinra (an IL-1 receptor antagonist) could reduce acute pain and enhance the body's natural opioid (endorphin) response in 43 healthy adults exposed to a standardized experimental pain challenge. Findings: Anakinra significantly reduced pain intensity (17% reduction) and pain sensitivity (49% reduction) while increasing endogenous opioid activity in key brain regions involved in pain processing and reward. The findings suggest anakinra may have potential as a non-opioid treatment for acute pain	Study: The PRESTIS randomized trial evaluated whether mailed HPV self-collection kits, with or without patient navigation, could improve cervical cancer screening participation among overdue patients in a safety-net health system. Findings: Screening participation increased from 17.4% with telephone reminders alone to 41.1% with mailed self-collection kits and 46.6% with self-collection plus patient navigation. Results support mailed HPV self-collection as an effective strategy to increase cervical cancer screening in underserved populations.
		

Currently Approved Quality Improvement Projects



**Total Number of Approved
Quality Improvement Projects**

ACS

Total: 36

BT

Total: 28

LBJ

Total: 31

*Data from 9-1-2026. QI may be conducted at more than one pavilion

Tuesday, October 27, 2026

Executive Session

Report Regarding Quality of Medical and Healthcare, Pursuant to Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §§151.002, 160.007 and Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032, to Receive Peer Review and/or Medical Committee Reports in Connection with the Evaluation of the Quality of Medical and Healthcare Services, Including Report Regarding Harris Health Quality Review Councils, and Possible Action Regarding this Matter Upon Return to Open Session.



Yashwant Chathampally, MD, MSc
Associate CMO & SVP – Quality & Patient Safety

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Tuesday, October 27, 2026

Executive Session

Report by the Executive Vice President, Chief Compliance and Risk Officer, Regarding Compliance with Medicare, Medicaid, HIPAA and Other Federal and State Health Care Program Requirements and a Status of Fraud and Abuse Investigations, Pursuant to Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032, Including Consideration of Recommendation for Approval of the Fiscal Year 2027 Internal Quality Audit Plan Upon Return to Open Session.



Carolynn Jones, JD, CHC

Executive Vice President, Chief Compliance and Risk Officer

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