



**CIRCLE  
OF EXCELLENCE 2026**



**Kristina Formica**

**Circle of Excellence**

Kristina Formica is a distinguished associate clinical manager in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) at Children's Hospital Colorado in Aurora. With over 18 years in a leadership role, she is a clinical expert and leader in resuscitation quality improvement

and staff professional development. Kristina is instrumental in numerous systemwide initiatives, including the adoption of the Rapid Response Team and Early Warning Scoring System, dramatically decreasing codes outside the PICU. Her data-driven leadership led a key stakeholder group to overhaul the activation paging system, resulting in a 39% reduction in error rates and a 47% reduction in operator errors. She played a pivotal role in designing a new nurse-led code team that improved the overall quality of code response from 57% to 100%. An advocate of AACN's Healthy Work Environment Standards, she models skilled communication, leads the PICU Code Debrief Team and mentors hundreds of direct reports.