



Karla Hurter, INSPIRIS
(703) 319-0957
khurter@health2resources.com

Jeff Smith, AmeriChoice
952-931-5685
Jeff.smith@uhc.com

Physician home visits centerpiece of new AmeriChoice and INSPIRIS partnership in Philadelphia

House calls to chronically ill Medicaid patients designed to provide care and to teach self-management skills

Jan. 27, 2009 Brentwood, Tenn. and Philadelphia, Penn.—Chronically ill members of AmeriChoice of Pennsylvania, Inc.'s Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance plans (CHIP) in Philadelphia are now receiving care and care management in their own homes, thanks to an innovative new partnership with Brentwood, Tenn.-based INSPIRIS through its physician-led Care Level Management program.

INSPIRIS, the provider of care and care management services for the frail, medically complex, and chronically ill, announced the new program that is designed to bring physician home visits to select members of AmeriChoice of Pennsylvania's plans. The INSPIRIS Care Level Management program focuses on enrollees with chronic conditions and with a history of repeat hospital admissions or frequent use of emergency department services. The members receive regular physician visits to their homes as an alternative source of care, and have access to INSPIRIS physicians for acute care needs. Patients also receive instruction on ways to better manage their chronic conditions in their home environment.

"Physician home visits by INSPIRIS' Care Level Management will enhance the patient-centered medical home model by coordinating care with the patient's primary care physician, the visiting physician and the case manager," said Humberto Guerra-Garcia, MD, MPH, chief medical officer for AmeriChoice of Pennsylvania. "INSPIRIS' Care Level Management physicians can provide a rapid response to acute care issues that arise with chronically ill patients, providing care at home where patients are more comfortable. It is an innovative approach to care for Medicaid members that we expect to reduce hospital admissions and visits to the emergency room."

The partnership is in keeping with Pennsylvania's initiative to improve care for the chronically ill using models that focus on patient care management and individual care plans. A primary focus of the Care Level Management program is the ability of the physician to evaluate the patient's condition and any barriers that may prevent the patient from complying with a recommended treatment plan. The Care Level

Management physician works with the patient to help resolve day-to-day problems with self-management of chronic conditions. The visits are patient-centered and last about 45 minutes, allowing ample time to observe the patient in the home environment and assess financial, social and safety issues that aren't apparent during a typical physician office visit.

"AmeriChoice and INSPIRIS are working together to both enhance care for the chronically ill and to improve care and to prevent avoidable costs that arise when chronic conditions unnecessarily become acute and require hospital care," said Mike Tudeen, INSPIRIS' president and chief executive officer. "By developing a positive relationship in the patient's own home environment, INSPIRIS' Care Level Management physicians can develop a degree of trust that helps penetrate the barriers to proper self-care for these chronic illnesses."

About INSPIRIS

INSPIRIS is a unique health care company focused on improving the quality of life for the frail, elderly, medically complex and chronically ill, while reducing the cost of care. INSPIRIS partners with individual health plans, traditionally Medicare Advantage and Medicaid plans, to provide high touch care and care management services to patients in private homes as well as custodial skilled nursing, post acute, assisted living and independent living facilities. For more information about INSPIRIS, visit www.inspiris.com.

About AmeriChoice

AmeriChoice, the public sector health care unit of UnitedHealth Group, facilitates access to community-based, culturally-sensitive, quality health care for more than 2.3 million beneficiaries of Medicaid, Medicare and Children's Health Insurance Programs in 22 states and the District of Columbia. In Pennsylvania, AmeriChoice offers both Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in Philadelphia, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Bucks counties.

AmeriChoice believes that health care cannot be provided effectively without consideration of the environmental factors that affect a person's life, and through its unique Personal Care Model, takes a holistic approach to health care, emphasizing practical programs to improve its members' living circumstances as well as their health. For additional information about AmeriChoice, visit us at www.AmeriChoice.com