Patients at Physician-Owned Hospitals (POHs), biggest winners in quality care according the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

New Hospital Value Based Purchasing (VBP) standards show POH's outstanding

Washington D.C. (December 31, 2012): Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) disclosure of bonuses and penalties for over 3,400 hospitals demonstrates that Physician-Owned Hospitals outperform their non physician-owned counterparts. Nine out of the top 10 hospitals being awarded the highest honors and bonuses are POH's. The top hospital, physician-owned Treasure Valley Hospital of Boise, Idaho, will receive the largest bonus for outstanding patient care.

Paul Kerens, President of the Physicians Hospitals of America (PHA), said today that POH’s continue to provide the best quality within the new system of value-based purchasing. “These numbers do not surprise me; POH’s have always welcomed standards and competition and continue to consistently show they are top-rated. This is just one more way our communities can see that we provide the best care in America.”

The VBP program was created by the Affordable Care Act (ACA). It represents the next step in promoting higher quality care for Medicare; pays for care that rewards better value and patient outcomes, instead of just volume of services. CMS compared hospitals on how well they followed 12 standards of care and how patients rated their experiences.

John Richardson, Executive Director of PHA stated, “Ironically, the ACA makes it unlawful for these same POH’s from expanding to meet community demand so additional patients won’t be able to reap the benefits these hospitals provide in great numbers unless this section of the ACA, Section 6001, is modified or repealed.”

“It remains clear that POH’s are great for healthcare and the healthcare consumer in this country with their outstanding scores in Value Based Purchasing,” commented Kerens.

Nicholas Genna, CEO of Treasure Valley Hospital in Idaho, recipient of the biggest bonus, credited close attention to patients, including a high nurse-to-patient ratio, and handwritten thank-you notes to patients, along with the fact that the doctors own the hospital. He said, “At Treasure Valley Hospital patient care is always first and foremost. Physicians are very involved in driving patient care and clinical outcomes. We have a very dedicated staff that work hand in hand with Physicians. He added, “Surgical Care Affiliates as a partner also drives quality clinical outcomes through quality measures, education and support. From physician’s offices to every teammate at Treasure Valley Hospital we are very proactive promoting patient safety and patient satisfaction. We try to give the very best care and make every patient’s experience at Treasure Valley Hospital a great one.”

Value Based Purchasing results according to the CMS latest ranking:

Of the 3,428 hospitals eligible for the VBP program, less than 200 were POHs. POHs ranked:
  · 9 of the top 10
  · 16 of the top 20
  · 23 of the top 30
  · 38 of the top 55
  · 48 of the top 100
While existing in only 33 states, POHs are tops in 15: AR, ID, IN, KS, LA, MT, NE, OH, OK, OR, SD, TX, WA, WI, WY
They are number 2 in CA and CO

About Physician Hospitals of America:
PHA offers support, advocacy and educational services to the physician-owned hospital industry, reflecting at all times the best interests of patients, physicians and other providers who play an inextricable and essential role in the provision of healthcare services. There are currently 265 physician-owned hospitals serving patients in 33 states. These hospitals include general acute care, long-term acute care, emergency medicine, multi-specialty, women’s, children’s, rehabilitation and psychiatric services. For more information visit: www.physicianhospitals.org.

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