Michigan Oncology Medical Home Demonstration Project Now Underway

Led by ION Solutions, Physician Resource Management & Priority Health, oncology medical home initiative aimed at improving oncology patient care and payer relationships

Valley Forge, Pa (PRWEB) August 14, 2012 -- ION Solutions, a company of AmerisourceBergen Specialty Group, and Physician Resource Management (PRM) are pleased to announce that three community oncology practices have committed to the Michigan Oncology Medical Home Demonstration Project. Initiated by ION Solutions and PRM, through collaboration with Priority Health—a leading Michigan payer—the unique project aims to address overall oncology costs by implementing an integrated approach to patient care. The project is designed to utilize evidence-based treatments for patients, improve management of side-effects and lower costs by reducing hospitalizations and emergency room visits.

Three active practices in the southeastern Michigan area, with a total of 27 physicians, will comprise phase 1 of the Michigan Oncology Medical Home Demonstration Project. Each practice will implement technology, tools, and services provided by ION Solutions and PRM to advance the clinical decision-making capabilities of oncologists and highlight how quality care is delivered to patients.

“Our key objectives for this program are to address public concern over the cost of cancer therapy and to support oncologist payment for the breadth of services necessary to deliver care,” said John Fox, M.D., vice president of Medical Affairs at Priority Health. “Through participation in this program, these practices are confirming their desire to improve upon the process of delivering care so that community oncology remains a viable option for patients desiring enhanced access to care, better outcomes and reduced costs for care.”

Another key component of this initiative is Navigating Cancer’s Patient Engagement Portal, which assists practices in establishing a more patient-centered relationship with their patients, while inviting the patient to participate in their care. This interaction is a key component of medical home.

Additional resources include:

• ION Solutions’ provider and payer reporting portal, which allows both groups to receive program updates, including current and historical compliance and program reports;
• Aging with Dignity’s Five Wishes Advance Care Planning Program which helps outline end of life care;
• Pegasus’ compliance reporting, which helps track use of evidence-based care decisions for optimal patient care;
• and ION Solutions’ Nucleus Data Exchange, a proprietary tool that serves to connect disparate systems within that practice.

Throughout this initiative, ION Solutions will serve as PRM’s technology, integration, informatics and analytics partner by collecting, aggregating and measuring data and information generated by participating practices. PRM will handle overall program design and coordination, as well as network management and support.

Working together, ION Solutions, PRM and Priority Health will continue to recruit community oncology practices that are interested in participating in future phases of the Michigan Oncology Medical Home Demonstration Project.

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About ION Solutions and AmerisourceBergen
As the undisputed market share leader, ION Solutions accelerates growth in community oncology by converging critical knowledge and collaboration among physicians, pharmaceutical manufacturers and payers. ION Solutions creates highly-engaged physician relationships that are changing the way oncology care is delivered; flexible, interoperable technologies that facilitate the best clinical and business decisions, as well as knowledge-rich informatics that improve patient access, health outcomes and cost control in cancer care. For more information, visit www.iononline.com.

About Physician Resource Management
Physician Resource Management, Inc. (PRM) is a specialized healthcare management-consulting firm dedicated exclusively to meeting the business and clinical needs of the oncology healthcare services sector. PRM imbues added value to all levels of the oncology healthcare delivery chain by providing and facilitating relevant, customized business solutions and services.

PRM empowers physicians to assure quality, value and optimal outcomes for their patients, while maximizing their efficiencies and reducing costs. For more information, please contact info@oprservices.com.

About Priority Health
Priority Health is an award-winning health plan nationally recognized for creating innovative solutions that impact health care costs while maximizing customer experience. It offers a broad portfolio of products for employer groups and individuals including Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries. As a nonprofit company, Priority Health serves more than 600,000 people and continues to be rated among the best health plans in the nation by the National Committee for Quality Assurance. Visit www.priorityhealth.com.

About Navigating Cancer
Navigating Cancer’s vision is to transform healthcare through patient centered care by using technology to connect cancer patients to their healthcare team, their own health records, and the right information at the right time. Navigating Cancer’s Patient Engagement Portal provides oncology practices with a branded, online extension of their care model, empowering them to save time and money while providing better quality care. The company was founded in 2008 by technology and healthcare veterans and is based in Seattle, Washington. For more information, www.navigatingcancer.com
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