GE Healthcare Performance Solutions Introduces New Offering to Reduce Unwarranted Clinical Variation in Hospitals

The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Feb 21, 2012-- GE Healthcare Performance Solutions, a unit of GE Healthcare, today introduced its Clinical Transformation Solutions practice, aimed at reducing unwarranted clinical variation in healthcare delivery. The U.S. healthcare industry is under unprecedented pressure to both reduce costs and improve quality, with health care reform forcing organizations to integrate and transform the way healthcare is delivered. GE's new offering will assist healthcare organizations in designing and implementing new integrated models to ensure clinically wasteful variation is reduced and avoidable (re)admissions are minimized.

Although healthcare organizations collect vast amounts of clinical and financial data, many face significant challenges in connecting this data to identify areas for improvement and deploying new integrated workflows to support new care processes. With this offering, GE Healthcare Performance Solutions will use its own transformation methodologies and expertise to accelerate the change process and ensure sustainability of benefits. Performance Solutions will work with technology partners including the recently-announced GE Healthcare and Microsoft joint venture, Caradigm (when it launches) to deliver clinical analytics, integrated workflow and patient engagement capabilities.

"Success will require more than leading technology alone," said Peter Kinhan, Managing Principal, Clinical Transformation Solutions, GE Healthcare Performance Solutions. "Clinical analytics, integrated workflow and patient engagement technologies will be essential enablers for change. Our Clinical Transformation solutions will help organizations design and build effective governance and clinical integration models combined with execution rigor to accelerate the change process." For more than 10 years, GE Healthcare Performance Solutions has worked side by side with healthcare organizations to improve care delivery.

The Clinical Transformation Solutions practice aims to sustainably address unwarranted clinical variation by working with key stakeholders to blend externally recognized guidelines with each organization's internal standards and better align processes to help ensure that patients receive the care recommended to them.

Specifically, the solution aims to look at high volume, high variance care areas like heart failure and diabetes.

"In today's hospitals, clinical variation is of particular concern -- especially as it relates to chronic conditions such as diabetes and congestive heart failure," said Rich Miller, President and CEO of Virtua. "Such variation can result in excess length

of stay, frequent ER admissions and inpatient re-admissions which can be extremely costly. We see a significant benefit to addressing unwarranted clinical variation across the continuum of care. By better analyzing existing data, hospitals can streamline daily operations and develop clinical pathways that provide the appropriate service to the patient at the appropriate time more efficiently." To learn more regarding Performance Solutions' Clinical Transformation Solutions practice, please visit the Performance Solutions website.

About GE Healthcare GE Healthcare provides transformational medical technologies and services that are shaping a new age of patient care. Our broad expertise in medical imaging and information technologies, medical diagnostics, patient monitoring systems, drug discovery, biopharmaceutical manufacturing technologies, performance improvement and performance solutions services help our customers to deliver better care to more people around the world at a lower cost. In addition, we partner with healthcare leaders, striving to leverage the global policy change necessary to implement a successful shift to sustainable healthcare systems.

Our "healthymagination" vision for the future invites the world to join us on our journey as we continuously develop innovations focused on reducing costs, increasing access and improving quality around the world. Headquartered in the United Kingdom, GE Healthcare is a unit of General Electric Company (NYSE: GE). Worldwide, GE Healthcare employees are committed to serving healthcare professionals and their patients in more than 100 countries. For more information about GE Healthcare, visit our website at www.gehealthcare.com.

For our latest news, please visit http://newsroom.gehealthcare.com CONTACT: Media Contacts: GE Healthcare Performance Solutions Britta Barrett, 203-400-1892 Britta.Barrett@ge.com KEYWORD: UNITED STATES NORTH AMERICA CONNECTICUT NEVADA WISCONSIN INDUSTRY KEYWORD: SURGERY TECHNOLOGY SOFTWARE OTHER TECHNOLOGY PRACTICE MANAGEMENT HEALTH ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE BIOTECHNOLOGY CARDIOLOGY FITNESS & NUTRITION HOSPITALS INFECTIOUS DISEASES MEDICAL DEVICES ONCOLOGY PHARMACEUTICAL RADIOLOGY OTHER HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SERVICES INSURANCE DIABETES MEDICAL SUPPLIES GENERAL HEALTH MANAGED CARE SOURCE: GE Healthcare Performance Solutions Copyright Business Wire 2012 PUB: 02/21/2012 02:00 PM/DISC: 02/21/2012 02:00 PM http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20120221006514/

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