



NEWS RELEASE

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**SAINT FRANCIS NAMES NEW DIRECTOR,
CONNECTICUT INSTITUTE FOR PRIMARY CARE INNOVATION**
Crystal L. Clark, M.D., M.P.H., Proven Leader and Innovator

(HARTFORD, Conn.) - Crystal L. Clark, M.D., M.P.H., has joined Saint Francis *Care* as Director of the Connecticut Institute for Primary Care Innovation (CIPCI), a collaborative enterprise with the University of Connecticut School of Medicine.

In her new position, Dr. Clark will oversee the efforts to improve primary care training, increase retention of primary care providers, conduct research on the best ways to deliver primary care, and provide a resource for the community of primary care providers. Accordingly, she will work closely with the CIPCI Section Leaders in education, research, informatics, and outreach, as well as foster productive partnerships with other leaders and organizations. She will report to Gregory Makoul, Ph.D., Chief Academic Officer and Senior Vice President for Innovation at Saint Francis *Care*.

Dr. Clark earned her medical degree from the University of Louisville School of Medicine, Louisville, Ky., completed a residency in Internal Medicine at Washington Hospital Center in Washington, D.C., and received her Master's in Public Health from Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health, Baltimore, Md. Dr. Clark is also a Fellow of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) in Cambridge, MA.

Prior to joining Saint Francis, Dr. Clark served as Director of Electronic Medical Record Benefit Realization at Bon Secours Health System, Inc., Mariottsville, Md., where she also collaborated with the Bon Secours Medical Group in achieving Patient Centered Medical Home designation for their primary care practices. She also previously served as Chief Medical Officer for the Bon Secours Baltimore Health System, and was Deputy Director of the Office of Policy and Planning for the Health Resources and Service Administration (HRSA).

"We conducted a national search for this high-profile position. Dr. Clark clearly emerged as the top candidate based on her proven leadership and innovation abilities, practical approach to research on delivering value across the continuum of healthcare, and outstanding communication skills. She is actively engaged with thought leaders at a national level, including

the Institute for Healthcare Improvement and the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation,” said Dr. Makoul.

A collaborative enterprise between Saint Francis *Care* and the University of Connecticut School of Medicine, CIPCI is based at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center to provide opportunities for innovative models of training and serve as a laboratory for improving transitions of care. It is an integral part of Bioscience Connecticut, which includes a series of initiatives involving area hospitals that will help meet the future healthcare needs of our region and state.

“We are elated that someone with Dr. Clark’s expertise, experience, talent and commitment will be leading CIPCI in its mission to improve primary care practice and education, as well as outcomes to improve the health of all Americans,” said Dr. Bruce Gould, associate dean of primary care for the UConn School of Medicine.

About Saint Francis

Saint Francis *Care* is an integrated healthcare delivery system established by Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, an anchor institution in north central Connecticut since 1897. Licensed for 617 beds and 65 bassinets, it is a major teaching hospital and the largest Catholic hospital in New England. Other major entities of Saint Francis *Care* include The Mount Sinai Rehabilitation Hospital, the Connecticut Joint Replacement Institute, the Hoffman Heart and Vascular Institute of Connecticut, the Saint Francis/Mount Sinai Regional Cancer Center, and the Joyce D. and Andrew J. Mandell Center for Comprehensive Multiple Sclerosis Care and Neuroscience Research. Its services are supported by a network of five major Access Centers and eight additional medical office centers sited throughout the region. For more information, visit www.stfranciscare.com.

About the University of Connecticut School of Medicine

The University of Connecticut School of Medicine was established in 1961 and is part of the University of Connecticut system of higher learning. Situated in suburban Farmington on the 160 acre campus of the University of Connecticut Health Center, the School of Medicine, the School of Dental Medicine, and the Graduate School in the Biomedical Sciences, represent the scholastic side of the academic medical center that includes, the John Dempsey Hospital, UConn Medical Group, UConn Health Partners and University Dentists. The school is committed to excellence in its missions of education, research and the care of patients. The discovery of new knowledge through research, and the teaching of that new knowledge to our students, results in the best care of the patients we serve. For more information, visit medicine.uhc.edu.