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Bristol Hospital Physician Earns National Recognition For Patient-Centered Care

BRISTOL, Conn.— The National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) has announced that Joseph Cherneskie, MD—a physician of the Bristol Hospital Multi-Specialty Group Inc—has received recognition from the Patient-Centered Medical Home 2011 (PCMH) program for using evidence-based, patient-centered processes that focus on highly-coordinated care and long-term participative relationships.

Dr. Cherneskie—a resident of Cheshire—has an internal medicine practice at 27 Main St in Terryville and is medical director of Bristol Hospital’s Med-Help Urgent Care located on 539 Farmington Ave in Bristol. He is the first physician at Bristol Hospital to receive Level 3 recognition which is the highest PCMH honor.

The patient-centered medical home is a model of care emphasizing care coordination and communication to transform primary care into “what patients want it to be.” Research shows that medical homes can lead to higher quality and lower costs, and improve patients’ and providers’ reported experiences of care. The PCMH identifies practices that promote partnerships between individual patients and their personal clinicians, instead of treating patient care as the sum of several episodic office visits. Each patient’s care is tended to by clinician-led team teams that provide for all the patient’s health care needs and coordinate treatments across the health care system. Medical home clinicians demonstrate the benchmarks of patient-centered care including open scheduling, expanded hours and appropriate use of proven health information services.

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‘The patient-centered medical home raises the bar in defining high-quality care by emphasizing access, health information technology and partnerships between clinicians and patients,” said NCQA President Margaret E. O’Kane. “PCMH Recognition shows that Dr. Cherneskie’s practice has the tools, systems and resources to provide patients with the right care at the right time.”

To receive recognition, which is valid for three years, Dr. Cherneskie demonstrated the ability to meet the program’s key elements embodying characteristics of the medical home. The standards are aligned with the joint principles of the Patient-Centered Medical Home established with the American College of Physicians, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Osteopathic Association.

Dr. Cherneskie met key program components in the following areas:

- Written standards for patient access and continuity of care
- Use of patient feedback materials
- Appropriate use of charting tools to track patients and organize clinical information
- Responsive care management techniques with an emphasis on preventive care for individual patients and the entire patient population
- Adaption to patient’s cultural and linguistic needs
- Use of information technology for prescriptions, test and referral tracking and coordination with other health providers
- Use of evidence-based guidelines to treat chronic conditions
- Measurement and reporting of clinical and service performance