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Business Health Care Group Recognizes Data Contributors to the Wisconsin Health Information Organization with its Leading Change, Creating Value Award

MILWAUKEE – February 7, 2020 – The <u>Business Health Care Group</u> (BHCG), a coalition of employers primarily located throughout eastern Wisconsin, awarded its Leading Change, Creating Value award at its Annual Meeting on January 28. Receiving the award were organizations that contribute health care claims data to the <u>Wisconsin Health Information Organization</u> (WHIO). The award is given annually to recognize those stakeholder groups or individuals who are leading change and creating value for health care in the State of Wisconsin, supporting BHCG's mission.

WHIO, a voluntary, statewide, all-payers claims database, provides unbiased data and information to a wide variety of health care stakeholders. It is the largest health care claims data source in Wisconsin, spanning the continuum of care, with approximately 4.2 million covered lives, representing \$100 billion in charges.

"Health care data is absolutely crucial to BHCG's strategic direction. We can't work to improve health care quality and cost efficiency throughout the state without it," explained Jeffrey Kluever, executive director of BHCG. "These data contributors are to be commended for their commitment to sharing data with WHIO."

"We encourage those health plans and insurance carriers who do not presently share their data with WHIO to do so. We believe they have an obligation to contribute employers' data to WHIO. It is, after all, the employers' data," Kluever added.

WHIO data was used by <u>GNS Healthcare</u>, a leading provider of artificial intelligence applications for health care, in BHCG's recently completed <u>Wisconsin Physician Value Study</u> that evaluates the quality and cost efficiency of physicians throughout the state of Wisconsin. An overview of the study's results was presented at BHCG's Annual Meeting.

"We are pleased BHCG chose to recognize organizations who have committed to improving the quality and cost efficiency of health care in Wisconsin by contributing their data to WHIO," said Dana Richardson, CEO of WHIO. "The Wisconsin Physician Value Study required a comprehensive data set inclusive of all care settings and physician specialties. This study serves as a prime example of how WHIO's data can be utilized to appraise the health care delivery system in our state," added Richardson.

The WHIO data contributor organizations that were recognized at the meeting were:

- Dean Health Plan, Inc.
- Group Health Cooperative of Eau Claire
- Group Health Cooperative of South Central Wisconsin
- HealthPartners, Inc.
- Medical Associates Clinic Health Plan of WI
- MercyCare Health Plans
- Navitus Health Solutions LLC
- Network Health Insurance Corp.
- NeuGen, LLC (a Shared Services organization, formerly known as WEA Trust & Health Tradition health plans)
- Quartz Health Solutions, Inc.
- Security Health Plan of Wisconsin
- The Alliance
- UnitedHealthcare of Wisconsin
- Wisconsin Department of Employee Trust Funds
- Wisconsin Department of Health Services
- Wisconsin Physicians Service Insurance Corporation

About the Business Health Care Group

The Business Health Care Group leverages member employer purchasing power and knowledge to lead change. The organization creates value through innovative, shared strategies to improve health care quality and cost efficiency for employers, employees and the community. BHCG membership exceeds 200,000 covered lives in the 22-county region of eastern Wisconsin and additional lives nationwide through standalone memberships for employers accessing BHCG best in class strategic partners. Visit BHCGWI.org to learn more.

About the Physician Value Study

A top priority of the Business Health Care Group (BHCG) and its member employers is to purchase high value health care. With generous support from the Greater Milwaukee Business Foundation on Health, BHCG commissioned and launched a first of its kind Physician Value Study in 2019 to evaluate the value of care provided by physicians throughout Wisconsin. The Study was conducted by GNS Healthcare ® a leading provider of artificial intelligence applications for health care, using data from the Wisconsin Health Information Organization (WHIO), the largest health care claims database in the state.

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