

TO MEDIA:

CONTACT PERSON: Robin Jennings
Marketing and Communications
Excelsa Health
724-689-0206 TEL
724-516-4483 CELL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JOINT COMMISSION RECOGNIZES EXCELA HEALTH FOR ADVANCING QUALITY

GREENSBURG, PA., November 7, 2018 ... The Joint Commission has recognized Excelsa Health as a 2018 Pioneers in Quality™ Solution Contributor for its contributions to electronic clinical quality measure (eCQM) data for quality improvement in health care.

Until recently, most hospitals collected information to measure health care quality by manually abstracting data from patient records. Today, through eCQMs — which rely on structured, encoded data present in the electronic health record — hospitals can electronically collect and transmit data on the quality of care that patients receive. The electronic data can be analyzed to measure and improve care processes, performance and outcomes.

The Joint Commission, the United States' leading accreditor of health care organizations, established the Pioneers in Quality™ program to assist and recognize accredited hospitals, critical access hospitals and health systems that report eCQM data, as well as share best practices for all hospitals and systems in gathering, analyzing and leveraging eCQM data for quality improvement.

Of more than 3,200 Joint Commission-accredited hospitals that reported 2017 data, only 25 have been named 2018 Pioneers in Quality™. Along with the other two dozen health care organizations recognized by The Joint Commission, Excelsa Health is featured in the newly published *Pioneers in Quality™ eCQM Proven Practices Collection: Recognizing Success 2017-2018*.

Pioneer in Quality Proven Practices support peer-to-peer sharing of successes and strategies in eCQM adoption.

“We are proud to be recognized by The Joint Commission,” said Denise Addis, MSN, RN, CPHQ, Excelsa Health’s Director of Value Based Quality. “It reflects on our staff’s commitment to continuous quality improvement, especially as it relates to the adoption of electronic clinical quality measures — the evolution and future of health care data reporting. Like The Joint Commission, we believe gathering and analyzing performance data is crucial to continuously improving quality of care and outcomes for all patients.”

“We commend Excelsa Health as a 2018 Pioneers in Quality™ organization for its contributions and commitment to electronic clinical quality measure data and practice toward quality improvement,” said David W. Baker, MD, MPH, FACP, executive vice president, Division of Health Care Quality Evaluation, The Joint Commission.

“That work to voluntarily share information helps the entire industry move forward in utilizing electronic clinical quality measurement for health care improvement.”

Pioneers in Quality™ recognition is not an indicator or measure of data quality or quality of care, but an indicator of an organization’s commitment to adopting eCQMs toward quality improvement. It recognizes eCQM data reporting and other contributions that advance eCQM adoption in health care. For more information about The Joint Commission and the Pioneers in Quality™ program, visit www.jointcommission.org. ###

About The Joint Commission

Founded in 1951, The Joint Commission seeks to continuously improve health care for the public, in collaboration with other stakeholders, by evaluating health care organizations and inspiring them to excel in providing safe and effective care of the highest quality and value. The Joint Commission accredits and certifies more than 21,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States. An independent, nonprofit organization, The Joint Commission is the nation’s oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in health care.