



INTERCEDE HEALTH

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

1/08 Houston TX

Media Contact: Amy Kaszak
Amy.Kaszak@intercedehealth.com
832.476.3915

Intercede Health improves hospital performance

Unique software reduces length of stay and lowers cost 18%

HOUSTON, TX-JANUARY 25, 2008

Intercede Health, a privately held medical management company, announces the release of a study showing the positive impact of Intercede's Order Optimizer™ product and associated hospitalist program on patient care at Bon Secours St. Mary's Hospital in Richmond, VA.

Order Optimizer is a computerized order set generator that empowers physicians to improve the quality of patient care while saving time and reducing errors.

By combining Order Optimizer with an effective Intercede hospitalist program, St. Mary's has realized significant benefits. The length of stay for St. Mary's patients under the care of Intercede hospitalists is at least one day shorter and the cost of care is 18% less than the hospital average. These measures are even more noteworthy given that the group's patient mortality and readmission rates were both over 50% lower than expected rates after adjusting for diagnoses, comorbidities, and age.

St. Mary's also reports a dramatic increase in CMS core measure compliance, which it attributes in part to the ability of the Order Optimizer program to easily and correctly document those indicators. "Order Optimizer is the only software capable of merging multiple diagnoses into a single order set to improve the quality of patient care while

reducing costs. The built-in prompts order options guide physicians to do what is right both for the patient and the facility. Patients receive the best care using evidence-based protocols, and the hospital benefits financially" says Philip Sanger, MD, CEO of Intercede Health.

Order Optimizer is an Intercede Health product designed for hospitals and hospitalist groups of all sizes. Hospitals currently using Order Optimizer report impressive results including standardization of care, improved patient safety, shortened LOS, reduction in redundant and costly procedures, enhanced awareness of quality indicators, and better documentation to support reimbursement. "We are thrilled with Order Optimizer and what it has done for facilities like St. Mary's" notes Sanger.

"Our hospitalists have been using Order Optimizer for over 18 months. In that time, the corresponding improvements in our CMS core measures have earned us the best performance rating within our hospital system. The hospitalists have reduced the cost per episode while maintaining high quality medicine" reports Michael Kerner, Executive Vice President and Administrator of Bon Secours St. Mary's Hospital.

Continued

Order Optimizer shortens the time it takes a physician to generate admission order sets and helps reduce medical errors. “There is no way I could generate such comprehensive orders for a patient with multiple diagnoses without Order Optimizer, and it saves me time. The program also reminds me of all the things to think about for a given diagnosis” observes Aaron Rosenberg, MD, a St. Mary’s hospitalist.

About Intercede Health

Intercede Health (IH) provides physicians, hospitals and health plans with innovative tools and services designed to improve the quality, safety, and efficiency of patient care. Intercede Health offers Hospitalist services, consulting, clinic-based disease management, inpatient utilization review and Order Optimizer™ software. Visit www.intercedehealth.com for more information.

About Bon Secours St. Mary’s Hospital

Bon Secours St. Mary’s Hospital is the 391-bed flagship hospital of Bon Secours Richmond. This award-winning facility includes a nationally recognized Joint Replacement Center and a birthing center voted by Style Magazine as “the best place in Richmond to have a baby.” Bon Secours St. Mary’s Hospital also ranks in the top 10% of America’s hospitals for emergency care. Known for its focus on patient care and customer service, St. Mary’s Hospital continually ranks high in patient and physician satisfaction.