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HITEC-LA Selects GE Healthcare as Preferred Vendor for Certified Electronic Health Records

GE Healthcare to offer discounted pricing and special contract terms to HITEC-LA members including primary care providers and specialists in solo, small group, and clinic practice settings

LOS ANGELES – HITEC-LA, the Health Information Technology Regional Extension Center (REC) for the nation’s largest county, announced today that it has selected GE Healthcare as one of its preferred vendors for certified electronic health records (EHRs). Certified by the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC), GE Healthcare’s Centricity Advance 10.1 and Centricity Practice Solution 9.5 and 10 can assist providers in achieving meaningful use and, as a result, in qualifying for Medicare and Medicaid incentives.

“The L.A. County solo providers, small practices, and clinics that we serve can benefit from the favorable terms that GE Healthcare will offer,” says Mary Franz, Executive Director for HITEC-LA. “Providers can achieve meaningful use and enhance the quality of care that they deliver with GE Healthcare’s high-quality certified EHR. GE Healthcare is a great addition to what will soon be a full range of certified EHR vendors that we will offer our health care provider members.”

“We value our relationship with HITEC-LA and the opportunity it presents us to educate and train the communities it serves,” said Jim Corrigan, Vice President and General Manager of GE Healthcare IT, Americas. “RECs are an important piece of the federal plan to increase EMR adoption, and we’ll do whatever it takes to facilitate that effort.”

RECs were formed under the Health Information Technology Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act, which is part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. In addition to developing the RECs, the HITECH Act also created the Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs, which provide incentive payments to eligible professionals as they adopt, implement, upgrade, or demonstrate meaningful use of certified EHR technology. Eligible health care providers can receive up to \$63,750 under the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program or up to \$44,000 under the Medicare EHR Incentive Program.

HITEC-LA was founded in 2010 under the HITECH Act when the federal government awarded L.A. Care Health Plan, the nation’s largest public health plan, a grant to establish the exclusive REC for Los Angeles County. HITEC-LA acts solely in the best interest of Los Angeles County health care providers, helping them select the right certified EHR system for their practices, and guiding them through the entire

implementation process to achieve meaningful use. Subsidized technical assistance is offered to eligible primary care providers at no-cost to them; specialists and other health care providers receive those services at substantial discounts.

HITEC-LA will be announcing additional preferred vendors in the coming weeks. Through these multiple vendors, a wide range of certified EHR options will be available for HITEC-LA's members throughout Los Angeles County including solo/small practices and clinics. Providers who sign up for HITEC-LA membership are offered a certified EHR selection process to help them assess their needs and choose the vendor that is the best fit for their practice. HITEC-LA is vendor neutral, and can help providers implement any EHR certified by the ONC.

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About GE Healthcare

GE Healthcare provides transformational medical technologies and services that are shaping a new age of patient care. Our broad expertise in medical imaging and information technologies, medical diagnostics, patient monitoring systems, drug discovery, biopharmaceutical manufacturing technologies, performance improvement and performance solutions services help our customers to deliver better care to more people around the world at a lower cost. In addition, we partner with healthcare leaders, striving to leverage the global policy change necessary to implement a successful shift to sustainable healthcare systems.

Our “healthymagination” vision for the future invites the world to join us on our journey as we continuously develop innovations focused on reducing costs, increasing access and improving quality around the world. Headquartered in the United Kingdom, GE Healthcare is a unit of General Electric Company (NYSE: GE). Worldwide, GE Healthcare employees are committed to serving healthcare professionals and their patients in more than 100 countries. For more information about GE Healthcare, visit our website at www.gehealthcare.com.

About HITEC-LA

Health Information Technology Extension Center for Los Angeles (HITEC-LA) is the exclusive federally-designated Health Information Technology Regional Extension Center for Los Angeles County, charged with helping doctors and primary care providers select, implement, and meaningfully use electronic health records certified by the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC). HITEC-LA helps providers assess their technology needs, as well as offers education, training, and on-site technical assistance. For more information, visit www.hitecla.org. HITEC-LA, a project of L.A. Care Health Plan, is funded by the ONC, Department of Health and Human Services, Award Number: 90RC0052/01.