

URAC INVITES CAREADVANTAGE TO PARTICIPATE IN ITS 8TH ANNUAL QUALITY SUMMIT AND EXHIBIT

CareAdvantage, Inc. was invited by URAC to participate in its 8th Annual Quality Summit and Exhibit, October 3-5, 2007, in Las Vegas, Nevada. CareAdvantage (CAI) illustrated how the complexity of a given disease has an impact on disease management program design and the value of using a cohort analysis approach to evaluate the performance and effectiveness of disease management (DM) programs and vendors.

William Vennart, MD, VP and National Medical Director of CAI, demonstrated the importance of understanding a disease's complexity as a prerequisite for determining appropriate disease management interventions and how critical it is to take into account case mix and severity differences for a given disease. Drs. Bernstein and Perkins described the use of cohort analysis as a credible approach to evaluate disease management performance. For evaluation of the effectiveness, the cohort included clinical heterogeneity, continuously enrolled members, single plan design, two year baseline period and outcome metrics, such as gaps in care, utilization and disease progression.

The presentation discussed the use of the Clinical Risk Group (CRG) stratification and how it supports the goal of minimizing major confounding factors related to the disease under focus. The presentation described how the cohort approach was used to trend a disease management program's impact on the members selected using the criteria outlined above. It also described how selection bias was minimized, by measuring the impact on all members with the disease not just those enrolled in the DM program.

About URAC

URAC is an independent, nonprofit organization, and a well-known leader in promoting health care quality through its accreditation and certification programs. URAC offers a wide range of quality benchmarking programs and services that keep pace with the rapid changes in the health care system, and provide a symbol of excellence for organizations to validate their commitment to quality and accountability. Through its broad-based governance structure and an inclusive standards development process, URAC ensures that all stakeholders are represented in establishing meaningful quality measures for the entire health care industry. Its mission is to promote continuous improvement in the quality and efficiency of health care management through processes of accreditation and education.

About CareAdvantage, Inc.

CareAdvantage, Inc., founded in 1994, is a management consulting company, specializing in improving health care delivery through state of the art care management solutions for health plans, employers, national consulting firms, hospital systems and other purchaser groups. CAI's decision support tools (RPNavigator, RPN³), in concert with the underlying CRG classification methodology and RPN APR-DRGs from 3M Health Information Systems, may be used on an enterprise wide basis for various initiatives. The CareAdvantage team consists of former health plan executives, senior medical directors, and care management operation directors, as well as, experts in clinical data analysis and information technology. Learn more by visiting CAI online at www.careadvantage.com.

About 3M Health Information Systems, part of the 3M Health Care Family

3M Health Care is the largest of seven major 3M businesses serving medical, dental, pharmaceutical and personal health care markets. 3M Health Information Systems, a division of 3M Health Care, is a leading provider of advanced software tools and services that help healthcare organizations capture, classify, and manage accurate health care data.