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NEWS RELEASE



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ANA APPLAUDS THE LAUNCH OF THE CENTER FOR INNOVATION

Silver Spring, MD – The American Nurses Association (ANA) was proud to participate in an event to announce the launch of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation. The Center for Innovation, a program funded by the Affordable Care Act through the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), will test innovative approaches to improving health care delivery, payment and quality. Its ultimate goal is to lower health care costs while improving quality.

ANA President Karen Daley, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN, spoke at the launch event, “Nurses share the Center’s focus on improving the quality of care, with patients at the center of all we do. Nurses have a unique perspective that comes from being the patient’s partner across the continuum of care and in all health settings.” President Daley continued, “To truly transform our health care system, it is essential to identify new models to improve quality while containing or reducing costs. Nurses’ education, skills and professional scope make them indispensable contributors to the successful development and implementation of evolving patient-centered care delivery models. We believe that the Center needs to explore a full range of new models of care, including those led by advanced practice registered nurses.”

The Center for Innovation will be testing care delivery models with a focus on certain criteria, many of which rely heavily on nurses:

- Patient-centered primary care
- Care settings beyond acute care
- Coordination of care, especially with targeted populations such as geriatric

MORE...

CMS Launches Center for Innovation page 2

- Interdisciplinary planning, care and communication
- Evaluation of appropriateness of services, chronic care management services and creating and disseminating patient decision-support tools

Nurse Managed Health Clinics (NMHCs) are a care model that ANA has touted as improving coordination of care, quality and efficiency. Recognizing the contributions of NMHCs, the Affordable Care Act authorized a \$50 million dollar grant program to expand the reach of these clinics over the next four years. NMHCs provide primary care, health education and preventive services that often serve low-income populations in underserved areas. If you are interested in learning more about innovative nurse-led programs, please visit the American Academy of Nursing's "Raise the Voice Campaign" at,

<http://www.aannet.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3301>

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The American Nurses Association (ANA) is the only full-service professional organization representing the interests of the nation's 3.1 million registered nurses through its constituent member nurses associations, its organizational affiliates, and its workforce advocacy affiliate, the Center for American Nurses. The ANA advances the nursing profession by fostering high standards of nursing practice, promoting the rights of nurses in the workplace, projecting a positive and realistic view of nursing, and by lobbying the Congress and regulatory agencies on health care issues affecting nurses and the public.