



Contact: Cindy Ernst  
510-208-1740  
[cernst@iha.org](mailto:cernst@iha.org)

July 9, 2001

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**IHA NAMES HELEN M. DuPLESSIS, MD, MPH TO BOARD**

WALNUT CREEK, CA – The Integrated Healthcare Association (IHA), a statewide leadership group active in health care policy and managed care issues, announces the appointment of **Helen M. DuPlessis, MD, MPH** to its Board of Directors, representing L. A. Care Health Plan, a public health plan serving Medi-Cal beneficiaries in Los Angeles County.

As chief medical officer of L.A. Care, Dr. DuPlessis oversees administrative, operational, and clinical issues relating to quality assurance and improvement, utilization management, case management, credentialing, pharmacy, data and research, health education, and provider education. She is also an assistant clinical professor of pediatrics at the UCLA School of Medicine, an adjunct professor at the UCLA School of Public health, and formerly a consultant with the health services program of the RAND Corporation.

Prior to joining L.A. Care, Dr. DuPlessis served as director of student medical services for the Los Angeles Unified School District, where she was responsible for the health and health-related services of more than 670,000 students in grades kindergarten through 12.

She received her medical degree from the University of California at San Francisco and her master's degree in health services organization from UCLA. She serves on national committees as a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Foundation for Accountability (FAACT), the National Assembly of School Based health Centers, and the American Public Health Association and is active in a variety of community service activities.

*[IHA \(www.iha.org\)](http://www.iha.org) is a statewide leadership group of health plans, physician groups, and health care systems, plus at large academic, purchaser, consumer, and pharmaceutical industry representatives, committed to policy development, public dialogue, and special projects associated with the continuing evolution of managed health care.*