



Contact:

Kris Deutschman, kris@kdcgroup.com
916-444-8801 or 916-425-7174 (c)

Daniel Danzig, dan@danzigcom.com
925-254-6078 or (925) 216-8153 (c)

**INTEGRATED HEALTHCARE ASSOCIATION AND CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION
OF PHYSICIAN GROUPS GATHER NATIONAL LEADERS TO BUILD
ACCOUNTABLE CARE ORGANIZATION UNDERSTANDING AND MOMENTUM**

*National Accountable Care Organization Congress, October 25 -27, To Include Reports on
California's Role in Nationally Prominent ACO Pilot Programs*

LOS ANGELES & OAKLAND, Calif., Oct. 11, 2010 – The California Association of Physician Groups (CAPG) and the Integrated Healthcare Association (IHA) are sponsoring a national educational effort to help health care leaders understand and implement Accountable Care Organizations (ACO), the central platform for reforming the nation's health care delivery system. The CAPG and IHA produced *National Accountable Care Organization Congress* (www.ACOCongress.com) in Los Angeles, October 25 - 27, 2010, includes national health care experts who will share practical insights on what is required to develop and implement ACOs. Additionally, there will be a detailed discussion of the publication of the IHA white paper on the California ACO experience.

“Health care stakeholders are focused on the need to deliver high quality care, while dramatically reducing costs,” said Don Crane, CEO of the California Association of Physician Groups. “California’s physician groups have pioneered and developed accountable, coordinated care over the last 30 years and are well prepared to help export the model across the nation in collaboration with hospitals and health plans.” said Crane.

“California is a laboratory for integrated health care and the creation of innovative approaches to align the interests of physicians, payers and purchasers,” said Tom Williams, Executive Director of the Integrated Healthcare Association. “The Congress will be a critical juncture in bringing together the best thinking,

innovation and practical experience for ACO development. Participants from nearly every state will return home with practical knowledge on how to implement ACOs.”

IHA and CAPG are leading a long-term project to articulate and disseminate the California experience on the development and management of ACOs. The project includes development of a white paper, roundtable forums, and the upcoming Congress, all of which take place as the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) begins to promote the proliferation of ACOs across the nation, as contemplated in the health care reform legislation passed in March.

Leading experts presenting at the Congress, to be held at the Century Plaza Hyatt Regency, 2025 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles, CA, include:

Elliott S. Fisher, MD, MPH, Director, Population Health and Policy, Director, Center for Population Health at the Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy;

Mark McClellan, MD, PhD, Director, Engelberg Center for Health Care Reform, Brookings Institution, Former CMS Administrator and FDA Commissioner;

Peter V. Lee, Esq., Director of Delivery System Reform, Office of Health Reform, US Department of Health & Human Services, Former President and Chief Executive Officer, Pacific Business Group on Health;

Stephen M. Shortell, PhD, MBA, MPH, Blue Cross of California Distinguished Professor of Health Policy, Dean, UC Berkeley School of Public Health;

John (Jack) H. Cochran, MD, FACS, Executive Director, The Permanente Federation

The California Association of Physician Groups (CAPG) is a professional organization of more than 150 of California's leading physician groups. These groups employ and/or contract with physicians who provide health care services to approximately 15 million Californians. More than 50 percent of California's health care is delivered by physicians employed by or contracted with CAPG members. www.capg.org.

IHA is a multi-stakeholder leadership group that promotes quality improvement, accountability and affordability of healthcare in California. IHA is a nonprofit association working to actively convene all healthcare parties for cross sector collaboration on health care topics. www.iha.org.

###