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Tupelo Hospital and Clinics Recognized with National Honor

North Mississippi Medical Center named to Meaningful Use Vanguard

BATON ROUGE – North Mississippi Medical Center and North Mississippi Medical Clinics have been recognized by the federal government and the Mississippi Regional Extension Center (REC) as members of the Meaningful Use Vanguard (MUV). This is an exclusive group of health care leaders who have demonstrated their commitment to transforming health care through the use of health information technology.

Meaningful Use Vanguard is a designation established by the federal Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) and the Mississippi REC, operated by eQHealth Solutions, to honor organizations and primary care practices that have made the transition to electronic health records (EHR).

"North Mississippi Medical Center and the clinic organization currently have many providers that are meeting Meaningful Use with their EHR. By the first of October, 130 providers associated with the medical center plan to demonstrate to Medicare that they are meeting the Meaningful Use Criteria," said Randy Bordelon, project manager for the MS REC. "We are proud to recognize Tommy Bozeman and his staff as 'MUVers,' (members of the Meaningful Use Vanguard)."

The Mississippi Regional Extension Center is designated by ONC to assist primary care practices in Mississippi who are adopting electronic health records. The REC works with clinicians as they strive to meet all milestones, including achieving the "meaningful use" designation.

Bordelon said the Mississippi REC recognizes that primary care practices, particularly those in rural areas, often face significant challenges in implementing EHRs.

"Mr. Bozeman and his North Mississippi Medical Center team have demonstrated leadership in making health information technology a reality in their community," said Bordelon. "His organization joins an exclusive group of champions of EHR adoption who are health information technology trendsetters." Tommy Bozeman is the chief information officer for North Mississippi Health Services.

Those who achieve this distinction become a part of an exclusive online community of like-minded EHR leaders. This network gives MUVers access to national health care leaders and the latest information on evolving national policy developments related to health information technology.

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About North Mississippi Medical Center

As a 650-bed regional referral center in Tupelo, the North Mississippi Medical Center holds the distinction of being the largest, private, not-for-profit hospital in Mississippi and the largest non-metropolitan hospital in America. The medical center serves more than 700,000 people in 24 counties in north Mississippi, northwest Alabama and portions of Tennessee.

About eQHealth Solutions

Health care payers and providers rely on our expertise and medical management products to improve health care and create operational and financial efficiencies. Founded in 1986, we are headquartered in Baton Rouge, LA and have offices in Illinois, Mississippi and Florida. Through our partnerships with Medicare, state Medicaid agencies and commercial payers, eQHealth touches the lives of more than six million people annually. To learn more about eQHealth's services visit www.eqhealthsolutions.org.