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News Alert

McKesson and Strategic Healthcare Programs Create New Process to Help Hospice Agencies Meet QAPI Requirements

Horizon Hospice™ and SHP work together to improve data analysis for performance improvement, patient satisfaction and benchmarking

ATLANTA, October 10, 2008 — McKesson and Strategic Healthcare Programs (SHP) announced today that the strengths of McKesson's Horizon Hospice™ and SHP's performance management programs will be combined to help hospice agencies collect data related to new industry standards.

The McKesson Horizon Hospice solution will work with SHP's programs to compile key metrics including diagnosis, demographics, funding source, level and location of care, and other indicators relevant to quality hospice care. Specifically, the solutions will help agencies compare their data to the benchmarks presented by CMS's 2008 Conditions of Participation and Quality Assurance/Process Improvement (QAPI) requirements.

CNS Home Health and Hospice in Carol Stream, Ill. has been participating in the development of the project. "The ability to benchmark our quality measurements against other hospices across the country is extremely important to our performance improvement programs," said Valerie Redlich, information systems manager for CNS Home Health and Hospice. "It will be invaluable as we measure our ongoing success."

The groundbreaking QAPI solution provides key measurement capabilities and the performance benchmarking necessary to support ongoing improvements for hospice providers. Providers will have the ability to measure performance improvement and patient and caregiver satisfaction for benchmarking. Beyond capturing and measuring the data, the solution also helps fulfill QAPI standards by using the information captured by Horizon Hospice for analysis based on indicators specific to hospice.

"SHP is well-known for providing real-time, actionable information, as well as pioneering electronic solutions to ease the burden of data collection," said Barbara Rosenblum, SHP founder and chief executive officer. "We are very pleased to leverage these capabilities in the hospice setting by working with McKesson to provide important decision-making information to hospice providers."

McKesson's Horizon Hospice solution provides hospice organizations with a comprehensive system for office clinical documentation, personnel scheduling, point-of-care technology, revenue cycle management, physician access, operational analysis and supply management. The solution is the

foundation for McKesson's strategy to expand the healthcare infrastructure to include home technologies that address the growing need for hospice delivery.

"In our role as IT partner, it is McKesson's responsibility to ensure our hospice customers face each new challenge armed with the tools they need to succeed," said Chris Dollar, general manager and vice president of McKesson's homecare and hospice division. "Our collaboration with SHP will help hospice providers meet the data analysis and process improvement requirements of QAPI and transition to its new standards with minimal impact."

About SHP, LLC

Strategic Healthcare Programs, LLC, based in Santa Barbara, California, offers award-winning, real-time, web-based performance data services and benchmarking for the entire spectrum of home care, serving 2,300 clients across the country. SHP is the only sole source of data and patient satisfaction services for all business lines – Home Health, Hospice, Private Duty, Home Infusion, and HME.

www.SHPdata.com

About McKesson

McKesson Corporation, currently ranked 18th on the FORTUNE 500, is a healthcare services and information technology company dedicated to helping its customers deliver high-quality healthcare by reducing costs, streamlining processes, and improving the quality and safety of patient care. McKesson is the longest-operating company in healthcare today, marking its 175th anniversary this year. Over the course of its history, McKesson has grown by providing pharmaceutical and medical-surgical supply management across the spectrum of care; healthcare information technology for hospitals, physicians, [homecare](#) and hospice; hospital and retail pharmacy automation; and services for manufacturers and payors designed to improve outcomes for patients. For more information, visit

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