



Physicians' Institute

for EXCELLENCE IN MEDICINE

Improving medical practice for physicians and their patients

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Physicians' Institute presents Health Technology Awards

Four Georgia medical practices recognized for innovative solutions

ATLANTA – The Physicians' Institute for Excellence in Medicine has announced the four recipients of its inaugural Health Technology Awards for 2007, recognizing Georgia physicians who have implemented technology solutions in their practice. The physicians' offices earning this year's awards are:

- Harbin Clinic of Rome
- Immanuel's Women's Center of Chatsworth
- McDuffie Medical Associates of Thomson
- Urological Health Care of Cordele and Warner Robins

“The purpose of the awards program is to showcase replicable, innovative technology solutions that demonstrate a positive impact on clinical practice,” said Walker L. Ray, M.D., president of the Physicians' Institute. “Among these are electronic medical records, registries, document management, telehealth and e-prescribing. These four Georgia physician-owned private practices have each distinguished themselves by having implemented a successful technology strategy that benefits the clinical process, practice management and, most important, patient care.”

The four awards recipients were chosen from applications submitted by primary care and specialty care practices across the state. The entries were judged by Georgia physicians who have been awarded the prestigious Davies Award from the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society.

“As medicine moves forward into the ‘electronic frontier,’ it is critical to acknowledge the successes of those who adopt the new technology early,” said one of the contest judges, Jeffrey Lee Harris, M.D., a Jesup, Ga., obstetrician/gynecologist whose practice won a national information technology award in 2005. “They serve as role models and prove that success can be achieved in both small and large medical practices.”

The Physicians' Institute created the new health technology awards in collaboration with GMCF, the Medicare Quality Improvement Organization for Georgia. The awards are

supported by a grant from the Physicians' Foundation for Health Systems Excellence and GMCF.

As a not-for-profit (501(c)(3) subsidiary of the Medical Association of Georgia, the Physicians' Institute focuses on activities to support physicians, including educational programs and tools in addition to sponsoring applied projects to improve the effectiveness of practices and processes in the physician office. The mission of the Physicians' Institute is to improve patient safety and achieve clinical improvements for physicians and their patients.

The Physicians' Institute was one of the few organizations in the country to receive a significant grant award from the Physicians' Foundation for Excellence in Medicine. During 2006 and 2007, the Physicians' Institute's grant has supported the MAG E-Technology Academy, a multifaceted program designed to increase the knowledge base of physicians regarding the use of technology in their offices.

The Physicians' Institute continues to collaborate on a national level with state medical associations, health foundations, pharmaceutical companies and other health organizations to support office-based physicians in their efforts to improve patient outcomes.

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