



News Release

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RISARC CEO Richard Stephenson Urges National Consensus on Patient-Centered Care

Stephenson believes that there is an emerging national consensus on the dynamics of healthcare delivery, and that all health care systems, going forward, must efficiently and effectively deliver service that puts the patient first.

Burbank, CA ([PRWEB](#)) August 30, 2012 -- Richard Stephenson, CEO and Founder of RISARC, a leading national provider of high-technology and revenue recovery solutions to the U.S. health care industry, urged moderation, as rhetoric over the American health care system heats up during election season.

Stephenson believes that there is an emerging national consensus on the dynamics of health care delivery focused on "patient-centered health care." Stephenson endorses the definition found in the [2006 Declaration of Patient-Centered Health Care](#) that states that an acceptable health system must deliver appropriate and cost effective care according to each patient's identified needs and preferences. The Declaration sets out five principles of best practices in patient-centered healthcare: respect; choice and empowerment; patient involvement in policy; access and support; and accurate, relevant and comprehensive information.

Said Stephenson: "We should not get drawn into an ideological battle and ignore the fundamental principles most Americans quietly hold in common. A premise which most Americans agree on: that the dynamics of all health care systems going forward, must efficiently and effectively deliver service that puts the patient before the plan."

Added Stephenson: "What principally ails our health care system – and is immediately evident to foreign healthcare analysts – is its gross inefficiency. American medical research is terrific at exploring new frontiers of care and cure. But where the practitioner meets the patient, the American system is subject to heedlessly and needlessly duplicate expensive services and diagnostic procedures. Patients rich and poor alike, with both minor and serious disorders, are often times, subject to a clinical re-work as a result of isolated care providers, specialists and diagnosticians that do not have the means to communicate and share vital information."



A recent story from the [New York Times](#) reports that an epidemic of overtreatment – too many blood tests, too many surgeries, too many scans – adds an unnecessary \$210 billion a year to costs while subjecting the healthcare system and patients to additional inconveniences and potential risk.

According to major study done by a team at the University of California at Davis, released last year and published by the [Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine](#), patient-centered care substantially and measurably reduces just this type of wasteful, dangerous health care cost while measurably improving health outcomes.

According to the principal authors of the study, Klea Bertakis, MD and Rahman Azari, PhD: “Patient-centered care results in greater knowledge of the patient, greater trust between physician and patient, and diminished need for additional specialty referrals, diagnostic testing, and use of hospital care.”

The authors of the PPACA – written, backed and passed by Congress in 2009 and ruled constitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court in June of this year – share that fundamental and common goal. Said HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius in Orlando in December 2010: “The law is also a serious platform for improving the quality of health care and changing the delivery system so we stop doing things that don’t work for patients and starting doing things which do work. It’s about better care: care that is safe, timely, effective, efficient, equitable, and patient-centered.”

Urges Stephenson: “We’ve heard enough on health care issues that divides us. Let’s build a national platform and consensus that puts the health and well-being of every American first.”

About RISARC

RISARC is a leading national high-technology and [revenue recovery](#) consulting firm to the health care industry. RISARC, founded in 1990, has recovered over \$1 billion for its clients. The company offers the [RMSebubble™](#) for secure electronic document exchange and the signature RISARC 360° single-source solution that combines health care revenue cycle expertise with innovative cloud-based, cost-saving technology to help clients optimize existing resources, meet business objectives and reach financial goals. RISARC is a pioneer in health care technology solutions and is a certified Health Information Handler for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, esMD project. The RMSebubble provides the industry’s best secure, HIPAA-compliant environment for electronic



record and document exchange and has been endorsed and accepted by providers, commercial insurance carriers and government agencies across the United States.

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