

Premier Anesthesia Launches Leadership Education Program

Alpharetta, GA (February 2010) -- Premier Anesthesia launched its Leadership Management Education Program (LMEP), a joint venture with the University of Alabama at Birmingham's School of Health Services Administration, during the inaugural Premier Medical Directors Conference on February 5-6, 2010.

The two-day conference, held at the Jackson Healthcare Corporate Headquarters, introduced Premier Medical Directors from facilities nationwide to updated programs and initiatives designed to foster physicians' leadership skills, regulatory compliance and customer service performance.

Premier Anesthesia is the first anesthesia management company to implement an academic program in partnership with a university. The LMEP will enhance Premier Medical Directors' understanding of the rapidly changing health care field, hospital finances and contracting, and team building and development. The academic focus ensures relevance, expands on a larger experiential base and provides academic credit.

"The faculty of UAB's nationally ranked program in healthcare management have been very impressed with the culture of Premier Anesthesia and the service and expertise Premier offers to their client hospitals," said Dr. Greg Carlson, Assistant Professor and Associate for Healthcare Consulting in the Department of Health Services Administration at UAB. "We are excited to partner with the medical directors of Premier Anesthesia in a mutually beneficial relationship."

The LMEP is part of Premier's initiative to open the lines of communication between hospital administrators and anesthesia leadership, aligning the anesthesia team with the hospital's strategic and business goals. Premier's leadership team will also participate in the program.

As part of an on-going quality initiative, Premier will be hosting a Medical Directors Conference at the Jackson Healthcare headquarters in Alpharetta, Georgia once per quarter.

Dr. Jerry Titel, Vice President of Medical Affairs at Premier Anesthesia, commented on the conference saying, “The most remarkable outcome of the February meeting was the cumulative 240+ years of clinical experience focused on quality, its meaningful definition, measurement, and, of course, improvement.”

“This meeting allows leaders who practice in the front lines to get together to discuss real life problems and discuss standards. What we are building is a unique community and support base that extends across this country. By getting anesthesia directors together, we are no longer just individual practice sites. A hospital who is having anesthesia related issues will be able to look at any Premier hospital in the future and know what they can join. Through these meetings, every site will be able to exemplify the high standards and quality of a Premier Anesthesia managed hospital,” added Dr. Michael Cervantes, Premier’s Medical Director for Corpus Christi Medical Center.

For more information on Anesthesia Leadership Issues and Solutions, visit the Premier Anesthesia website at:

<http://www.premieranesthesia.com/anesthesia-services/anesthesia-leadership-issues.aspx>