



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ortho Rhode Island and UnitedHealthcare Collaborate to Improve Orthopedic Patients' Care in Rhode Island

- *UnitedHealthcare's first specialty-specific value-based care relationship in Rhode Island to enhance how the health system cares for patients*
- *More resources committed to sharing information and coordinating patient care*

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (September 6, 2016) – Ortho Rhode Island (Ortho RI) and UnitedHealthcare have launched a new program designed to improve patient health by dedicating more resources to care coordination among Ortho RI care providers, and the primary care physicians and rehabilitation providers outside the practice who contribute to the patients' total care plan. The goal of the program is to help patients return to physical activity quicker and increase their satisfaction with their health care experience.

A value-based care relationship puts greater emphasis on quality and patient outcomes while promoting increased information sharing among all care providers involved in a person's treatment, ensuring patients get the right care they need in the right setting. More than 140,000 people enrolled in UnitedHealthcare's employer-sponsored health plans are eligible to benefit from this collaboration.

In 2015, Blackstone Orthopedics & Sports Medicine, Foundry Orthopedics & Sports Medicine and South County Orthopedics joined together to form Ortho RI. West Bay Orthopaedics & Neurosurgery will join Ortho RI later this year. The group was established to provide high-quality, coordinated orthopedic care throughout the state. Its aims include providing patients with innovations in patient care as it focuses on creating a musculoskeletal practice capable of meeting patient care goals as outlined under the Affordable Care Act.

"We formed this group with the distinct goal of creating an accountable, patient-centric group from the very start. We are committed to using orthopedic best practices and coordinating care, both inside and outside of our practice, in order to provide patients with the very best experience," said Michael Bradley, M.D., president and CEO of Ortho RI. "Working with UnitedHealthcare, we will have access to more tools enabling us to improve the health of its plan participants."

UnitedHealthcare will supplement Ortho RI's own patient data to help support overall population health, providing the entire care team with clear, actionable information about individual patients' health needs, potential gaps in care and proactive identification of high-risk patients.

"UnitedHealthcare and Ortho RI are working together to help patients receive more personalized and better connected care in order to significantly enhance their return to a more active, more pain-free lifestyle and help them live healthier lives," said Stephen Farrell, CEO, UnitedHealthcare of New England.

UnitedHealthcare serves more than 290,000 residents in Rhode Island, with a network of 17 hospitals and nearly 4,700 physicians and other care providers statewide.

More than 14 million people enrolled in UnitedHealthcare plans across the country have access to accountable care programs, delivered in part through more than 750 accountable care arrangements nationwide as the organization engages in deeper, more collaborative relationships with physicians and hospitals.

Care providers nationwide are showing strong interest in a shift to value-based care. UnitedHealthcare's total payments to physicians and hospitals that are tied to value-based arrangements have tripled in the last three years to more than \$49 billion. By the end of 2018, UnitedHealthcare expects that figure to reach \$65 billion.

For more information about UnitedHealthcare's full spectrum of value-based initiatives, visit www.UHC.com/valuebasedcare.

About Ortho Rhode Island

Ortho Rhode Island has more than 55 care providers at 17 locations serving the needs of orthopedic patients in Rhode Island and Southern Massachusetts. The group's areas of expertise includes hand, joint, pain management, shoulder, spine, sports medicine, joint reconstruction, primary care sports medicine and podiatry. The group uses the power of scale, collaboration, and resources to create an efficient and high quality model to deliver orthopedic care. Ortho Rhode Island also offers physical therapy, MRI, ultrasound, durable medical equipment and athletic training, as well as a fitness center.

About UnitedHealthcare

UnitedHealthcare is dedicated to helping people nationwide live healthier lives by simplifying the health care experience, meeting consumer health and wellness needs, and sustaining trusted relationships with care providers. The company offers the full spectrum of health benefit programs for individuals, employers, military service members, retirees and their families, and Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries, and contracts directly with more than 1 million physicians and care professionals, and 6,000 hospitals and other care facilities nationwide. UnitedHealthcare is one of the businesses of UnitedHealth Group (NYSE: UNH), a diversified Fortune 50 health and well-being company. For more information, visit UnitedHealthcare at www.uhc.com or follow @myUHC on Twitter.

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