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***U.S. News & World Report* and NCQA rank BMC HealthNet Plan #2 in America for Medicaid plans**

BMC HealthNet Plan, the largest private Medicaid health plan in Massachusetts, earned the #2 rank among Medicaid plans in the nation, according to the 2009-10 “America’s Best Health Insurance Plans”^{*} rankings by *U.S. News* and the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

In the rankings released today (November 12), BMC HealthNet Plan’s #2 spot for US Medicaid plans is based on its score in quality performance reviews conducted by NCQA. **BMC HealthNet Plan was also the highest rated Medicaid health plan in Massachusetts.**

The rankings were developed by comparing performance data for health plans that voluntarily provided NCQA with results from consumer surveys conducted through the Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS®) and from data that show health plans’ relative performance on 33 individual measures for preventing and treating illness.

In a related review, NCQA’s Quality Compass^{**} gave BMC HealthNet Plan the top rating among Medicaid plans in the U.S. for two measures of quality: “comprehensive diabetes care – HbA1c” testing (or blood sugar monitoring), and “medical assistance with smoking cessation – discussing strategies.”

“We are extremely pleased with the results of this independent review of our health care quality performance,” said Karen Fifer Ferry, Executive Director of BMC HealthNet Plan. “Our earning this high rank is the result of an extraordinary collaboration on the part of our health care providers, our health plan staff and our members, who had the

medical visits, tests, immunizations, lab work and other services they need in order to get or stay as healthy as possible.”

In its first try at accreditation, BMC HealthNet Plan earned NCQA’s highest possible accreditation rating in June, 2009, “Excellent,” for its Medicaid (or MassHealth) plan, which currently serves 184,000 members through 60 hospitals and 15,000 healthcare providers across Massachusetts. The Plan counts 244,000 members overall including 60,000 members in Commonwealth Care, a relatively new state program for which accreditation is not currently offered by NCQA.

* America’s Best Health Insurance Plans is a trademark of *U.S. News & World Report*.

** Quality Compass® is NCQA’s national database of health plans’ HEDIS® and CAHPS® results. The source for data contained in this publication is Quality Compass® 2009 and is used with the permission of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). Quality Compass 2009 includes certain CAHPS data. Any display, analysis, interpretation, or conclusion based on these data is solely that of the authors, and NCQA specifically disclaims responsibility for any such display analysis, interpretation or conclusion. Quality Compass is a registered trademark of NCQA. CAHPS® is a registered trademark of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ).

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