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Home Care Assistance Develops a Cutting-Edge Approach to Reducing Avoidable Hospital Readmissions

As an industry leader in quality care at home, Home Care Assistance is partnering with leading medical institutions to reduce avoidable hospital readmissions with its trailblazing post-discharge home care program

(Palo Alto, CA – January 24, 2012) As America continues to grapple with exploding health care costs, Congress and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid have placed a renewed emphasis on eliminating avoidable hospital readmissions. These readmissions are typically caused by insufficient post-hospitalization care, failure to adhere to medication or therapy regimens and lack of support and supervision for recently discharged patients. According to the Medicare Payment Advisory Committee, almost one in five Medicare patients will be readmitted to the hospital within 30 days of discharge. These hospital readmissions cost over \$15 billion dollars per year and are a source of tremendous anxiety for patients and their families.

[Home Care Assistance](#), North America's leading provider of in-home care, is proud to announce a nationwide partnership with leading medical institutions to reduce avoidable hospital readmissions by providing patients and their families with the resources and education they need to effectively plan for discharge and post-hospitalization recovery.

"The hospitalization and discharge experience can be harrowing for families who are suddenly thrust into caregiving roles they aren't fully prepared for," said Lily Sarafan, President of Home Care Assistance. "Our Hospital to Home Care program arms families with the resources they need to make an informed decision and effectively plan for their loved ones' rehabilitation at home. We have also developed a proprietary training model that teaches our caregivers to promote the lifestyle behaviors that facilitate a safe recovery at home."

As a trusted partner of leading medical facilities and an advocate for aging adults, Home Care Assistance is in a unique position to combat avoidable hospital readmissions. Combining years of home care case studies with leading medical research, Home Care Assistance has developed an impactful suite of educational resources for hospitalized patients. The suite is anchored by *From Hospital to Home Care*, a comprehensive book on the hospital discharge and recovery process

written by co-founders Dr. Kathy Johnson, Dr. James Johnson and Lily Sarafan. The book provides a comprehensive overview of the challenges and resources associated with each step in the transition from hospital to the home, explains the discharge process from an inpatient hospital stay, outlines common issues associated with specific medical conditions, discusses the unique needs of recently hospitalized patients and emphasizes the importance of home care in patient outcomes and quality of life.

Home Care Assistance is also excited to unveil HospitaltoHomeCare.com, a free online resource for families seeking information about the discharge process and recovery at home. Consumers can browse the educational content available on the site and download the free 'What is Home Care' and 'Hospital to Home Care' guides, as well as Home Care Assistance's comprehensive discharge planning checklist.

"Hospital readmissions are not only detrimental to a patient's mental and physical health and expensive, but they can result in hospital penalization, said Dr. David B. Carr, MD. Readmissions may be the result of inadequate support and supervision following the patient's discharge orders upon returning home. Having a structured, professional Hospital to Home program like the one offered by Home Care Assistance promises benefits to the patient and the hospital by working in conjunction with the patient's medical team to ensure discharge orders are followed and intervention occurs before a readmission is necessary."

For more information about Home Care Assistance, visit www.HomeCareAssistance.com or call 1-866-454-8346. For more information about the Home Care Assistance Franchise opportunity visit franchise.homecareassistance.com or call 702-204-1436.

ABOUT HOME CARE ASSISTANCE

Home Care Assistance is the leading provider of home care for seniors across the United States and Canada. Our mission is to change the way the world ages. We provide older adults with quality care that enables them to live happier, healthier lives at home. Our services are distinguished by the caliber of our caregivers, the responsiveness of our staff and our expertise in Live-In care. We embrace a positive, balanced approach to aging centered on the evolving needs of older adults. A 2012 Franchise500® Company, Home Care Assistance has received numerous industry awards including *Entrepreneur's* Fastest-Growing Franchises and *Franchise Business Review's* Top 50. For more information about Home Care Assistance, our services and franchise opportunities, visit homecareassistance.com or franchise.homecareassistance.com.