

NEWS RELEASE

 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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 FOR MORE INFO:
 Claire Goldfarb/Barb Pierce, 314.571.6300,

 cgoldfarb@WeAreHughes.com
 or Twitter @clairecg

 Andrea Saeger, Esse Health, 314.851.1053

Esse Health to Participate in AMGA Development Collaborative

ST. LOUIS – St. Louis-based physician group Esse Health and 19 other medical groups and organized systems of care across the country will participate in the American Medical Group Association's Accountable Care Organizations (ACO) Development Collaborative. The yearlong program will assist member organizations in gaining and strengthening the critical capabilities necessary to become successful Accountable Care Organizations.

"We look forward to exploring how we can pool our collective knowledge base so that we can continue to improve all of our practices and services," said Mike Castellano, CEO. "As a member of this elite group, we will mutually benefit from the participants' experiences and insights so that our providers and staff, and ultimately our patients, benefit from this program."

The 20 organizations represent more than 10,500 providers serving approximately 5 million patients in the United States. Esse Health is the only participating Missouri health care group. The first meeting of the ACO Development Collaborative will take place Oct. 1-2 in conjunction with the AMGA National Summit on Accountable Care Organizations. For more details, click here for a release from AMGA: http://www.amga.org/AboutAMGA/News/article_news.asp?k=427.

Esse Health is a St. Louis-based physician group that strives to improve the overall well-being of its patients through patient education, lifestyle modification and prevention. With 28 locations throughout the St. Louis and Metro East area, Esse Health's services include asthma, allergy and immunology, family medicine, internal medicine, nutrition, pediatrics and radiology. Esse Health is recognized as a leader in using technology in health care and physician accountability for both quality and cost-of-care. For more information on Esse Health, visit <u>www.essehealth.com</u>.