



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEWS RELEASE

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13 Esse Health Physicians Named 2009-2010 Best Doctors

ST. LOUIS – Esse Health, one of the St. Louis region's largest independent physician groups, is proud to announce that 13 of its physicians have been named Best Doctors in America® by their peers and colleagues.

The physicians include Dr. Patricia J. Amato, Dr. Curt E. Calcaterra, Dr. Susan R. Colbert-Threats, Dr. Gerry L. Deschamps, Dr. Charles H. Dougherty, Dr. James E. Ebel, Dr. David E. Hartenbach, Dr. Richard L. Lazaroff, Dr. Karen K. Norton, Dr. Peter Putnam, Dr. Randall S. Sterkel, Dr. Elizabeth A. Tracy and Dr. Stanley G. Vriezelaar. For bios and photos of the Best Doctors, visit http://www.essehealth.com/our_providers.php.

Best Doctors was founded in 1989 by two Harvard Medical School physicians as a means to identify the most respected doctors and provide access to dependable, high-quality medical information and care. Best Doctors consists of 50,000 experts in 30 countries and reaches more than 15 million people. In order to be considered for inclusion on the list, a physician must first be nominated by a currently listed Best Doctor and then undergo confidential evaluation by other current Best Doctors in their own and related specialties. Approximately 5 percent of doctors practicing in the United States are selected as a Best Doctor.

Amato, Norton and Putnam practice at Watson Pediatrics in Crestwood, Mo.; Calcaterra and Ebel practice at the South County Internal Medicine offices in St. Louis; Tracy and Vriezelaar practice at the Richmond Heights Internal Medicine offices located in Richmond Heights, Mo.; Colbert-Threats practices internal medicine at the Esse Health Office of Dr. Susan Colbert-Threats located in Richmond Heights, Mo.; Hartenbach, Lazaroff and Sterkel practice at Creve Coeur Pediatrics in Creve Coeur, Mo.; Deschamps practices pediatrics at Florissant Pediatrics in Florissant, Mo.; and Dougherty practices at Tesson Pediatrics in St. Louis.

About Esse Health:

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 www.essehealth.com.