



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEWS RELEASE

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## Two Esse Health Physicians Achieve Recognition in the Diabetes Recognition Program

ST. LOUIS – Esse Health is proud to announce that two more of its physicians, Dr. John H. Rice (photo at <http://budurl.com/JRice>) and Dr. Gary A. Maassen (photo at <http://budurl.com/GMaassen>), have been awarded Recognition by the National Committee for Quality Assurance and the American Diabetes Association in the Diabetes Recognition Program. Esse Health now has 17 physicians with this recognition.

“Clinicians who earn recognition through the Recognition Program have an established track record of providing excellent diabetes care,” said John Buse, M.D., PhD, President, Medicine & Science, American Diabetes Association. “The list of recognized clinicians is the first place to look if you or your loved one has been diagnosed with diabetes.”

NCQA, in partnership with the American Diabetes Association, developed the Diabetes Recognition Program to recognize clinicians who have met standards demonstrating delivery of high-quality care to patients with diabetes. Clinicians who achieve DRP Recognition show their peers, patients and others in the diabetes community that they are part of an elite group that is publicly recognized for its skill in providing the highest-level diabetes care. Esse Health recently launched a free “Taking Care of Diabetes” Program at its various locations.

Rice graduated from the University of Missouri Medical School in Columbia, Mo., before receiving his master’s in business administration from Washington University in 1991. Currently, Rice serves as chief medical officer and executive vice president of Esse Health. He sees patients at both of Esse Health’s Florissant and St. Charles offices.

Maassen is an internal medicine physician in Esse Health’s South County Internal Medicine office. He graduated from St. Louis University Medical School and completed his residency at St. John’s Mercy Medical Center. Maassen participated in Operation Desert Storm and received the Air Force Achievement Medal, the United Nations Outstanding Unit Award and a Service Medal.

### 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](http://www.essehealth.com).