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Aspirus MedEvac Achieves NAAMTA Medical Transport Accreditation

Wausau, WI – 13/July/2015 – Subsequent to a comprehensive audit of administrative documentation, medical practices, and facilities, <u>NAAMTA</u> is awarding <u>Aspirus MedEvac</u> full medical transport accreditation for their rotor-wing and ground programs. As a result, Aspirus MedEvac now begins their role as a NAAMTA Alliance member, and thus is privy to the benefits associated.

"This accreditation is a confirmation of our ongoing commitment to quality and continuous improvement," said Jason Keffeler, Trauma, Transport and Transfer Service Line Administrator for Aspirus. "The knowledge gained during the accreditation process and the additional resources we utilized through NAAMTA, allows Aspirus MedEvac to be even more focused on our commitment to providing the highest standards of quality patient care."

NAAMTA's Alliance members are held in high esteem for meeting stringent requirements that define and influence transport operational excellence. Aspirus MedEvac not only demonstrated compliance in each of the numerous standards, but also excelled in identifying best practice procedures and instilling these values in each employee. NAAMTA found their compliance to be evident through employee interviews, on-site evaluations, and process reviews, all of which were conducted using ISO 9001:2008 auditing guidelines.

NAAMTA's Accreditation program is built on providing standards that focus on quality patient care and the safety of the transports for all involved. NAAMTA's Alliance unifies each accredited organization in the vanguard of continuous improvement for medical transport.

By attaining NAAMTA Accreditation, Aspirus MedEvac becomes the first hospital-based program in the NAAMTA Alliance. Comprising of industry experts, they demonstrate the depth of their medical transport experience through their dedication to improving patient care and cultivating an environment of safety.

As observed by Nancy Purcell, NAAMTA's Director of Clinical Services, "Aspirus is a top-notch program. Very few programs are as thorough in performing internal evaluations of every organizational process as Aspirus. The involvement of all employees in the quality management process was very impressive. Aspirus is a perfect addition to the NAAMTA Alliance."

Aspirus demonstrated throughout their documented processes and employee activity that they are dedicated to increasing the standards of the medical transport industry. One of the ways they accomplish this focus is by placing special emphasis on patient care relationships, an element that stood out during the entire auditing process.

Aspirus MedEvac has built a solid reputation in medical transport excellence, a status augmented now by a nationally-recognized medical transport accreditation. NAAMTA salutes Aspirus MedEvac for their proactive approach in achieving their accreditation and looks forward to the contributions they will make to the NAAMTA Alliance.

About NAAMTA

NAAMTA is an accreditation standard-bearer for the medical transport industry, offering procedures that include guidelines for developing a quality management system focusing on transport safety, patient care, and continuous improvement. Since its inception in 2009, NAAMTA has worked diligently to be globally recognized by attaining ISO 9001:2008 QMS certification and to implement quality practices into their accreditation program. NAAMTA has successfully made great strides in identifying key best practices to improve the standard of performance among EMS providers at a national and global level. Through a dynamic approach to auditing and a vast array of web-based reporting and learning tools for members, NAAMTA distinguishes itself as an accreditation source interested in the improvement of medical transport organizations.

About Aspirus MedEvac

Aspirus MedEvac medical transportation service provides 24-hour emergency air and ground medical transport for critically ill and injured individuals of North Central Wisconsin and Upper Michigan. They are dedicated to providing the highest standard of care and safety to our patients.

When seconds count, the specially-equipped MedEvac helicopter can pick up patients from regional hospitals or directly from the scene of an emergency. Aspirus MedEvac also operates three critical care ground transfer ambulances from ground bases in Medford, Rhinelander and Weston, Wisconsin. Aspirus MedEvac also participates in ALS intercept services. As needed, two specially equipped SUV vehicles can provide intercepts for area Basic Life Support agencies.

About Aspirus

Aspirus is a non-profit, community-directed health system based in Wausau, Wisconsin that includes eight partner hospitals, more than 35 community-based clinics, a vast affiliated physician network, and a philanthropic and research foundation. With more than 7,000 employees, Aspirus serves people in 14 Wisconsin counties and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, providing leading heart, cancer, women's health, and spine and neurological care.

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