

UNION COUNTY HOSPITAL RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE IN PHYSICIAN-PATIENT COMMUNICATIONS

Anna, IL (September 7, 2011) – Union County Hospital in Anna has been recognized with the Excellence in Physician Communications Award from Community Health Systems, one of the nation’s leading systems of general acute-care hospitals. The organization includes Union County Hospital and more than 130 other hospitals in 29 states.

Presented at the organization’s Chief of Staff annual meeting, Christine Lucas, M.D., chief of staff of UCH, accepted the award on behalf of the hospital.

“Union County Hospital creates an excellent patient experience at every level – employees, administration, and board,” said Dr. Lucas. “It is an honor to accept this award on behalf of my colleagues whose clinical excellence and compassionate care positively impact the lives of patients each day.”

The Excellence in Physician Communications Awards recognize top-performing hospitals whose patients report that their doctors explain things clearly, listen carefully and treat them with courtesy and respect. This communication is measured by the patient perception of care survey called HCAHPS, conducted by the Medicare program. Survey results are publicly reported on hospitalcompare.hhs.gov.

The hospital’s community cares culture is focused on creating a great place for patients to receive care, including hourly rounding and excellence in patient and caregiver communications. Union County Hospital is committed to creating a great patient experience from admission to discharge.

“We appreciate Dr. Lucas’ leadership and our Hospitalists with Apogee Medical Management, Dr. Brian J. Reach and Dr. John Earnhart, along with Dr. Mike Cerny, who provide outstanding care and clear communications that create a great experience for our hospitalized patients,” said Jim Farris, Chief Executive Officer of Union County Hospital.

For more information on available services, visit UnionCountyHospital.com or call 618-833-4511.

The terms "Community Health Systems," "CHS," the "Company" or the "organization" used in this press release refer to Community Health Systems, Inc. and its affiliates including Community Health Systems Professional Services Corporation, unless otherwise stated or indicated by context.

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