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Visiting Nurse Association of Central New York Earns 4 Star Rating From Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Syracuse, NY – The Visiting Nurse Association of Central New York, a division of VNA Homecare, has received an exceptional four star quality rating from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) in recognition of the superior quality of home health care the agency provides. The rating is based on process and outcome measures tracked by CMS and will be listed on the Home Health Compare tool at Medicare.gov beginning in October.

According to CMS, each participating Home Health Agency (HHA) receives a quarterly Quality of Patient Care Star Rating encompassing its relative performance on nine of the 29 quality measures already posted on Home Health Compare, including: timely initiation of care; drug education; influenza immunization; improvement in ambulation; improvement in bed transferring; improvement in bathing; improvement in pain interfering with activity; improvement in shortness of breath; and acute care hospitalization.

The measures are calculated using information from patient assessments performed by the HHA and from Medicare claims submitted by the HHA. When calculating patient outcomes, statistical models are used to adjust for differences in the types of patients served by different agencies.

The Visiting Nurse Association of Central New York's four star rating places the agency in the 80th percentile of home health care agencies in the nation. Of the 9,359 Medicare-certified agencies rated this quarter, just 26.3 percent received four or more stars.

"The Visiting Nurse Association of Central New York is proud that our commitment to providing exceptional patient-centered care has been recognized by CMS, particularly because these ratings rely on feedback from our patients," said Kate Rolf, President and Chief Executive Officer of VNA Homecare. "Patient experience is an integral part of the nation's ongoing health care conversation, and these ratings help patients navigate complex choices about where to receive their care."

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VNA Homecare is a full-service home health care agency committed to making a profound difference in the lives of our patients by providing expert, high-quality care where they want it most – in their homes. Our entities include the Visiting Nurse Association of Central New York, Inc., the VNA Foundation of Central New York Inc., CCH Home Care and Palliative Services, Inc., Independent Health Care Services, Inc., Home Aides of Central New York, Inc, Eldercare Social Day Program, VNA Homecare Options, LLC and the Eldercare Foundation, Inc. Our goal is to deliver an unprecedented level of home health care specifically designed to meet the needs of those who mean the most to us – our patients. Our focused approach improves the quality of each patient's life, and helps each individual achieve maximum independence.

For more information, please contact us at 315.477.HOME or visit us online at www.477home.org.