

# Health Design Plus Receives Full Case Management And Health Utilization Management Accreditations from URAC

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: October 6, 2009

Contact: Stacy A. M. Beck, Manager, Marketing and Client Services

Email: [sbeck@hdplus.com](mailto:sbeck@hdplus.com)

Phone: (330) 656-4392

HUDSON, October 6, 2009 - Health Design Plus (HDP), a premier innovative Third-Party Administrator, announced today that it has been awarded full Case Management and Health Utilization Management Accreditations from URAC, a Washington, DC-based health care accrediting organization that establishes quality standards for the health care industry. URAC's Case Management and Health Utilization Management Accreditation standards require companies to establish a process to assess, plan and implement case management and health utilization management interventions.

"Health Design Plus is honored to receive full Case Management and Health Utilization Management Accreditations from URAC," said M. Ruth Coleman, President and CEO of Health Design Plus. "We are very pleased to be recognized in the industry for providing outstanding services. Such a distinction also underscores the quality of our work with customers, patients, clients, payors, and providers by demonstrating compliance with national standards for case management and health utilization management."

Health Design Plus offers Care Management programs that provide comprehensive, personalized clinical oversight to support members in receiving quality healthcare that focuses on their unique needs. The Health Utilization Management program includes an evaluation of medical necessity and the appropriate use of healthcare resources, specific to each member's needs. Health Design Plus continually integrates quality throughout its voluntary Case Management program providing a personalized, collaborative approach between members, their providers, and their Nurse Case Manager. Health Design Plus promotes the right care, at the right time, with the right providers to support each member's best healthcare success.

"Health Design Plus should be commended for meeting strict quality standards," said Alan P. Spielman, URAC President and CEO. "It is critically important for health care organizations to make a commitment to quality and accountability. URAC accreditation is a demonstration of that commitment."

URAC's Case Management and Health Utilization Management Accreditation standards address approaches to ensuring appropriate patient protections have been established, such as policies for confidentiality of patient information, informed consent, dispute resolution, and other issues. The standards cover staff structure and qualifications, quality improvement, information management, ethics, complaints, and the care management process.

URAC, an independent, nonprofit organization, is well-known as a leader in promoting health care quality through its accreditation and certification programs. URAC offers a wide range of quality benchmarking programs and services that keep pace with the rapid changes in the health care system, and provide a symbol of excellence for organizations to validate their commitment to quality and accountability. Through its broad-based governance structure and an inclusive standards development process, URAC strives to ensure that all stakeholders are represented in establishing meaningful quality measures for the entire health care industry. For more information, visit [www.urac.org](http://www.urac.org).

For more information contact Stacy Beck, Manager, Marketing and Client Services at [www.sbeck@hdplus.com](mailto:sbeck@hdplus.com) or [www.hdplus.com](http://www.hdplus.com).

## **Health Design Plus**

**Established in 1988, Health Design Plus, initially a care management company, expanded its suite of services to include network development and management, claims administration, and acquired Professional Nurse Associates, a recognized leader in maternity management. Health Design Plus primarily employs professionals in the greater Cleveland/Akron area to serve clients with innovative care management, utilization management, disease management, and claims administration. Focusing on mid to large companies fitting the self-insured model, Health Design Plus offers a consultative approach to provide the right solutions for most challenging healthcare needs. With over 20 years of continued success, Health Design Plus continues to innovate new products, such as Good Health By Design, a suite of wellness programs including *LifeStart*<sup>®</sup>, a maternity management program, *Wellness Counts*<sup>®</sup>, a biometric screening and coaching program, *Carewise*<sup>®</sup>, a care management program, and *Healthy Living*<sup>™</sup>, a disease management program, designed to fit all wellness- readiness levels, promoting healthier lifestyle choices and behavior modification to reach personal goals. Health Design Plus helps clients fuel their fiscal health in the marketplace while improving the health of their employees and members. For more information on Health Design Plus, please visit the company's web site, [www.hdplus.com](http://www.hdplus.com).**