

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***One of the first of its kind – patient safety and quality care service  
launched in Dallas-Fort Worth Area***

***Regional Master Patient Index allows tracking of regional readmissions across area hospitals***

IRVING, TX – The Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council Education and Research Foundation (DFWHC Foundation) has developed the Regional Enterprise Master Patient Index (REMPI). Using software by QuadraMed, REMPI is one of the first known electronic master patient index in the U.S. with an all-payor data warehouse,

“REMPI is a patient index for North Texas,” said W. Stephen Love, president and CEO of the Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council and board member of the DFWHC Foundation. “This electronic innovation will allow hospitals participating in the Information and Quality Services Center to trend regional readmission patterns, emergency room visits and other patient/hospital encounters across hospitals and systems. REMPI opens new areas of research and exploration for the continued improvement of healthcare.”

The service provides evaluation of patient readmission patterns across the region, regardless of which hospital is accessed by a patient. Using the proprietary matching algorithm, 7,364,432 inpatient records admitted from 2003 through September 2008 have been processed and made available for patient safety and quality analysis by participating hospitals of the DFWHC Foundation. The service complies with HIPAA and Texas state requirements for privacy and security of patients’ Protected Health Information.

“Our mission is to continually improve the community’s health by supporting safe, cost effective and equitable healthcare through education, research and collaboration,” said Kristin Jenkins, president of the DFWHC Foundation. “The REMPI tool allows us to focus even more so on this mission. We are excited about these new areas of exploration and the opportunity to promote the continued improvement of healthcare in North Texas.”

REMPI will be used for patient record linking methodology of inpatient and outpatient claims for future Regional Healthcare Information Exchange in North Texas. It can also be used for process improvement, care coordination and reducing healthcare costs.

Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council Education and Research Foundation is a non-profit 501c3 public charity. The mission of the Foundation is to continually improve the community’s health by promoting safe, high quality, cost effective, accessible, and equitable healthcare and by strengthening the healthcare workforce through education, research, and collaboration.

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