



## News

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Arlington, VA. , Nashville, TN - September 1, 2009**: Hospital Corporation of America, (HCA), which is composed of locally managed healthcare facilities that include 163 hospitals and 112 outpatient centers in 20 states and England, has joined Practice Greenhealth, the nation's leading group for organizations in the healthcare community that have made a commitment to sustainable, eco-friendly practices.

"Our intention is to become a leader in environmental practices among healthcare companies," said Alan Yuspeh, Senior Vice President and Chief Ethics & Compliance Officer for HCA, who also serves as chair of the HCA's Sustainability Steering Committee. "This signals HCA's commitment to have a comprehensive environmental strategy in concert with our mission of the care and improvement of human life. We know that challenges lie ahead as we implement additional sustainable practices in our hospitals. We look forward to our work with Practice Greenhealth and are confident that our partnership with this innovative organization will help us achieve the leadership role we seek."

Each HCA hospital will appoint a sustainability coordinator who will lead this effort on behalf of his or her facility. As members of Practice Greenhealth, each HCA hospital will have access to a vast array of tools, resources and expertise. The sharing of best practices is at the heart of the value proposition for Practice Greenhealth.

The year 2009 may have been the tipping point for the sustainability movement in healthcare as this community has assumed a role of leadership in the broader ecology of the planet to act as a healing force and change agent. "Historically, the healthcare sector has been one of the largest consumers of energy and water and generates tons of solid and medical waste. Practice Greenhealth members are turning the tide on this history, however, with growing evidence that greener facilities improve patient outcomes, decrease lengths of stay, and improve the health and performance of healthcare workers, while saving money and minimizing liability and compliance risks." noted Bob Jarboe, executive director of Practice Greenhealth.

"We are thrilled that HCA has joined" said Mr. Jarboe. "We recognize the tremendous commitment this represents and look forward to working with the folks at HCA as they implement and expand their sustainable, eco-friendly practices throughout their system. This is a very exciting addition to our membership roster."

With the addition of HCA, Practice Greenhealth membership now exceeds 1,000 organizations. Members include individual hospitals, healthcare systems, businesses in the healthcare community and other like-minded stakeholders engaged in the greening of healthcare to improve the health of patients, healthcare workers, and the environment.

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