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September 9, 2005

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GEHA AND PPO USA ANNOUNCE URAC HEALTH NETWORK ACCREDITATION

Lee's Summit, MO – PPO USA, Inc. a subsidiary of Government Employees Hospital Association, Inc. (GEHA) announced today that the CONNECTION Dental network has been awarded Health Network Accreditation from URAC, a Washington, DC-based health care accrediting organization that establishes quality standards for the health care industry. URAC's Health Network Accreditation is the premier accreditation program for preferred provider organizations (PPOs).

PPO USA offers access to the CONNECTION Dental network to Third Party Administrators, Insurance Companies, Self-Funded and Self-Administered Employers, and Health and Welfare Funds. CONNECTION Dental consists of more than 40,000 dentist locations that have agreed to accept a discounted fee schedule for their dental services.

“URAC standards set the bar for quality and accountability,” said PPO USA President Joe Witkowski. “The accreditation process was a great opportunity for GEHA and PPO USA to evaluate and benchmark both the provider network and the organization.”

“By applying for and receiving Health Network Accreditation, the CONNECTION Dental network has demonstrated a commitment to quality health care.” Said Charles Stellar, URAC board Chair. “Quality health care is crucial to our nation's welfare and it is important to have organizations that are willing to measure themselves against national standards.”

Recently updated, URAC's Health Network Accreditation standards include key quality benchmarks for network management, provider credentialing, utilization management, quality management and improvement and consumer protection.

URAC, an independent, nonprofit organization, is a leader in promoting health care quality through accreditation and certification programs. URAC's standards keep pace with the rapid changes in the health care system, and provide a mark of distinction for health care organizations to demonstrate their commitment to quality and accountability. Through its board-based governance structure and inclusive standards development process, URAC ensures that all stakeholders are represented in setting meaningful standards for the health care industry. For more information, visit www.urac.org.

For more information about PPO USA and the CONNECTION Dental network contact Mark Coyne, PPO USA National Sales Manager, at 877-477-6872 or visit www.ppousa.com.

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