Oxford Enters Into New Long-Term Agreement With North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System



TRUMBULL, Conn., April 11 /PRNewswire/ -- Oxford Health Plans ("Oxford") and the North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System ("North Shore-LIJ") announced today that they had completed extensive discussions regarding their strategic relationship and have entered into a long-term agreement, including their financial arrangements through December 31, 2004.

As part of the agreement, North Shore-LIJ will no longer bear the healthcare cost risk for seniors enrolled in Oxford's Medicare+Choice ("OMA") program after December 31, 2001. Until that time, Oxford's Medicare members served by North Shore-LIJ will not have their benefits and coverage affected. Oxford may reassess its Medicare benefits and coverage in Nassau County for 2002.

According to Norman C. Payson, M.D., chairman and CEO of Oxford, "This long-term, comprehensive agreement with North Shore-LIJ makes the healthcare institutions of the North Shore-LIJ Health System fully accessible to our members for years to come. The financial arrangements are consistent with our goal to keep healthcare premiums affordable for employers and consumers."

"Moreover, the long-term reimbursement arrangement makes healthcare costs more predictable. With this understanding with North Shore-LIJ, we believe we are positioned to grow commercial membership in the region," Dr. Payson added.

John S.T. Gallagher, CEO of North Shore-LIJ, stated, "We are pleased to have reached a long-term agreement with Oxford and look forward to continuing to provide the highest quality care to Oxford's members and to the entire community."

Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This press release may contain comments that are considered forward-looking statements within the meaning of applicable federal securities laws and are based upon Oxford's current expectations and assumptions which are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties which could cause actual results to materially differ from those anticipated. A discussion of those risks and uncertainties is included in the discussion under "Business - Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements" in the Oxford annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2000.

SOURCE Oxford Health Plans, Inc. Web Site: http://oxfordhealth.com Company News On Call: Company News On-Call: http://www.prnewswire.com/comp/104612.html or fax, 800-758-5804, ext. 104612

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