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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Release

Virginia Center for Health Innovation Receives \$2.2 Million Grant to Tackle Healthcare Waste through Collaboration with Milliman MedInsight

Seattle – March 15, 2019 – Earlier this week, at the University of Michigan’s Value-Based Insurance Design Summit, Virginia’s Secretary of Health and Human Resources, Dr. Daniel Carey, announced that the non-profit Virginia Center for Health Innovation (VCHI) had secured support from Arnold Ventures through a \$2.2 M grant to launch a statewide pilot to reduce the provision of low value healthcare in Virginia. VCHI utilizes Milliman’s MedInsight Health Waste Calculator product to identify low value healthcare, which includes medical tests and procedures that research has proven add no value in particular clinical circumstances and can lead to potential patient harm and a higher total cost of care.

A national dialogue around low value care has been growing since 2012 when the American Board for Internal Medicine’s Choosing Wisely® initiative identified more than 550 tests and procedures that should be questioned by providers and patients. “VCHI looked at just 42 of these measures, using 2017 claims data for 5 M Virginians from Virginia’s All-Payer Claims Database and the Milliman MedInsight Health Waste Calculator, and identified 2.07 M unnecessary services costing \$747 M,” stated Secretary Carey. “The data made it clear we needed to do much, much better.”

Through VCHI’s ongoing collaboration with Milliman MedInsight, as well as Michigan’s VBID Center, the American Board of Internal Medicine, Virginia Health Information, they will now work with the leadership of six Virginia health systems and three clinically integrated networks (Ballad Health; Carilion Clinic; HCA and Virginia Care Partners; Inova and Signature Partners; Sentara and Sentara Quality Care Network; and VCU Health System). Together, these groups represent 900+ practice sites that will join to form a large-scale health system learning community targeting the reduction of seven low value care measures. “We are absolutely delighted that Virginia’s medical community has responded so positively to our early data reports and shown a commitment to advancing better value and better care,” said Beth Bortz, President and CEO of the Virginia Center for Health Innovation. “As partners in this initiative, each health system and clinically integrated network will review baseline and practice-level performance data from the Milliman MedInsight Health Waste Calculator, develop system improvements based on that data, and share best practices with other providers in the learning community.”

With the financial support of Arnold Ventures, VCHI will leverage its considerable aligned assets to:

- increase clinician competence in reviewing performance reports and implementing targeted interventions to improve outcomes;
- improve understanding of which interventions are effective in reducing seven provider-driven low value care tests and procedures and provide health systems and practice leaders throughout the country with tested best practices they can implement;
- reduce the physical, emotional, and financial harm patients experience from unnecessary tests and procedures; and



- educate Virginia employers (including state government) on the actions they can take to drive complementary payment reform that better incentivizes value in healthcare.

Beth Bortz readily acknowledges that this pilot would not be possible without the strong data infrastructure provided by Virginia Health Information and Milliman. Marcos Dachary, director of product management at Milliman MedInsight adds, “Beth and VCHI’s efforts began in 2013, and the MedInsight team has been honored to help the Commonwealth lead the nation in evaluating their data for potentially wasteful services and also creating a plan for action. Reducing financial, emotional, and physical harm from low value services is a difficult task and we’re proud to create a data driven path forward for providers, payers, and purchasers, so they can take actions that ultimately benefit consumers.”

For more information about Milliman’s MedInsight products, please go to www.medinsight.milliman.com.

About Milliman MedInsight

Milliman MedInsight is one of the healthcare industry’s most highly regarded platforms for data warehousing and healthcare analytics. MedInsight Solutions have been adopted by over 300 health plans, employers, at-risk providers/ACOs, state governments, community health coalitions, and third party administrators. Additionally, MedInsight has standalone products that provide preconfigured or custom reporting and data configurations that can address specific business needs.

About Milliman

Milliman is among the world's largest providers of actuarial and related products and services. The firm has consulting practices in healthcare, property & casualty insurance, life insurance and financial services, and employee benefits. Founded in 1947, Milliman is an independent firm with offices in major cities around the globe. For further information, visit milliman.com

About the Virginia Center for Health Innovation

Incorporated in January 2012 following a recommendation from Gov. Robert McDonnell’s Virginia Health Reform Initiative, the Virginia Center for Health Innovation (VCHI) seeks to facilitate innovation by convening key stakeholders and securing the resources to accelerate value-driven models of wellness and healthcare throughout Virginia. VCHI’s work is focused on achieving three aims: reducing low value health care, increasing high value health care, and ensuring Virginia has the infrastructure in place to measure and reward value in health care. Among its many innovative projects, the most notable for their alignment with this initiative is the Virginia Health Value Dashboard and the Virginia Scorecards on Payment Reform. For more information visit: www.vahealthinnovation.org and follow on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.

About Arnold Ventures

Arnold Ventures is a philanthropy dedicated to improving lives through evidence-based solutions that maximize opportunity and minimize injustice. Arnold Ventures invests in sustainable change, building it from the ground up based on research, deep thinking, and a strong foundation of evidence. With more than 80 employees in Houston, Washington, D.C., and New York City, Arnold Ventures focuses on criminal justice, health, education, and public finance. It is the 8th largest philanthropy in the United States based on annual giving, committing more than \$250 million to grantees in 2018.



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