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News Release

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Availity Partners with Health Care District of Palm Beach County

Enables streamlined claims transactions for Palm Beach County health care providers

JACKSONVILLE, FL – Availity, L.L.C., a leading provider of e-health transaction services, has partnered with the Health Care District of Palm Beach County (“District”), a county-funded health plan that services Palm Beach County, and its affiliate, Healthy Palm Beaches, Inc., a Medicaid HMO. Through this partnership, the District health care providers will be able to submit claims electronically with the District and other health plans through Availity’s electronic data interchange (EDI) clearinghouse service. Together, Availity and the District are committed to providing innovative solutions for its health care providers that standardize and simplify administrative processes, enhance data quality, and reduce administrative costs.

Transitioning all of the District’s provider-generated electronic transactions to a single point of entry – the Availity® Gateway – will simplify and streamline the claims processing function for providers. Today, the District transacts its claims business with its providers by way of a paper medium. Although the District will continue to accept paper claims, the Availity Gateway will allow providers to electronically submit claims at no cost to them and ensure they are compliant with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act – Administrative Simplification provisions (HIPAA-AS).

“On September 10, 2003 the District Board of Directors unanimously approved to contract with Availity to bring value to not only our providers, but also to the entire patient community that the District serves. Availity has an enviable reputation for its provider satisfaction and the quality of its technology,” stated Usha Vargas, Director of Information Services for the Health Care District of Palm Beach County. “We are pleased to be associated with this fine firm.”

“We are delighted to have the Health Care District of Palm Beach County as an Availity partner. Together we share a unique opportunity to improve the overall health experience for all of the stakeholders that the District serves,” said Steve Dougherty, Availity Alliance Manager.

About The Health Care District of Palm Beach County

The Health Care District of Palm Beach County is a special taxing district created in 1988. The Health Care District’s mission is to maximize the health and well-being of Palm Beach County residents by addressing their health care needs and planning for the access and delivery of services. This is accomplished through the following programs in the Health Care District’s core areas: Trauma System, Children’s Health Program, Managed Care/Healthy Palm Beaches, Inc. and the Healey Center.

About Availity – Patients. Not paperwork.®

Availity optimizes the flow of information between Florida health care providers, health plans, and other health care stakeholders through a secure Internet-based exchange. The Availity® Gateway supports both real-time web and batch electronic data interchange (EDI) transactions, is committed to complying with HIPAA regulations, and has proven to be fast and efficient. Availity health plan transactions are free to providers. Value-added services include credentialing data maintenance, also free to providers, and online prescription refill authorizations. Availity is the recipient of the 2003 AstraZeneca-NMHCC Partnership Award, the 2003 TETHIE Award, the 2003 E-Fusion Award, and the 2003 eHealthcare Leadership Award. For more information, including an online demonstration of the Availity Gateway, visit www.availity.com or call 1.800.AVAILITY (282.4548).