

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dr. Grace E. Terrell Named to National Healthcare IT Commission

Chicago, IL — Grace E. Terrell, MD, President and CEO of Cornerstone Health Care, has been appointed to serve on the board of the Certification Commission for Healthcare Information Technology as “one of five volunteer applicants selected from a list of 100 highly qualified individuals,” according to Mark Leavitt, MD, PhD, Chairman of the CCHIT Board of Commissioners.

Dr. Terrell will attend her first meeting of the 21-member board of commissioners on January 12 in Chicago. The board guides and approves the work of the voluntary work groups and staff as they develop certification criteria, inspection processes and policy for the CCHIT, a nonprofit organization with the public mission of accelerating the adoption of healthcare IT. Founded in 2004 and certifying electronic health records (EHRs) since 2006, the Commission established the first certification criteria through a voluntary, consensus-based process engaging diverse stakeholders, and is officially recognized by the Federal government as a certifying body.



In February 2009, Congress acknowledged the value of certification in the language of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) aimed at stimulating the nation’s economy. The law offers a multi-year series of incentive payments to providers and hospitals for the meaningful use of certified EHR technology. Anticipating a massive response to the new incentives, CCHIT has launched plans to broaden access to certification which will subsequently impact the work of the CCHIT and its board.

Dr. Terrell has been CEO and President of Cornerstone Health Care since 2000.