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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**SDI RELEASES 2011 TOP 100 IHNS RATING OF THE 100 MOST HIGHLY INTEGRATED  
HEALTHCARE NETWORKS**

*Sentara Healthcare finishes first; Wellstar Health System joins top 10 for first time*

PLYMOUTH MEETING, Pa. – Jan. 24, 2011 – [SDI](#) announced today the release of the SDI 2011 Top 100 IHNs, the 14th edition of its annual assessment of the 100 most integrated healthcare networks (IHNs). SDI's report, regarded as the nation's premier rating system, evaluates IHNs on their performance and degree of integration.

With a score of 93.17 out of a possible 100, 2 points higher than last year, Sentara Healthcare (Norfolk, VA) finished No. 1 for the second year in a row. Sentara is the only IHN to rank in the top 10 of the SDI IHN 100 for all 14 years.

Wellstar Health System (Marietta, GA), a newcomer to the top 10, was ranked No. 9 with a score of 89.11. Wellstar improved its ranking significantly from last year, when it placed 13th.

Overall, IHNs in 2011 showed improvement in total scores across both the top 10 (up an average of 2.1 points) and top 100 (up an average of 3.8 points) compared to last year. All IHNs improved in the eight benchmark categories that are assessed, and the top 100 IHNs saw significant increases in the categories of services and access, integration, and integrated technology.

IHNs that made both the top 10 and top 100 continued to improve their integrated technology scores, particularly in the area of information services (IS) integration, which measures integration of IS programs across the IHN. Additionally, IHNs in the top 100 saw increases in scores for having real-time central medical records. These scores may further grow in the coming year in response to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' initiatives to have providers adopt and achieve meaningful use of electronic health record technology.

"In anticipation of Medicare payment reform, many hospitals, physician groups, and health systems are looking into the formation of accountable care organizations (ACOs)," said Pat Witman, Associate Product Director, Healthcare Profiling Solutions for SDI. "IHNs, with their network of providers already in place, are well-positioned to enter this arena. Six of the IHNs in SDI's Top 100 and Best of the Rest have already entered partnerships with other healthcare organizations to form ACOs."

## About the [SDI 2011 Top 100 IHNS](#)

The 2011 edition identifies the top 100 IHNs in the current universe of 576 non-specialty, local, and regional networks in the United States that meet critical success factors. In addition to the top 100, SDI publishes the *Best of the Rest*, a regional ranking of IHNs that did well but could not break into the top 100.

The ratings are based on SDI's IHN Rating System, which evaluates each network's ability to operate as a unified organization in eight categories: integration, integrated technology, contractual capabilities, outpatient utilization, financial stability, services and access, hospital utilization, and physicians.

The IHN Rating System uses data from the following SDI products:

- SDI Integrated Healthcare Network Profiling Solution
- SDI Hospital Market Profiling Solution
- SDI Medical Group Practice Profiling Solution
- SDI Diagnostic Imaging Center/Chain Profiling Solution
- SDI Freestanding Outpatient Surgery Center/Chain Profiling Solution
- SDI Home Health Agency/Chain Profiling Solution
- SDI Healthcare Market Index

SDI's annual IHN survey, initiated in 1997, is another primary source for the ratings. The survey allows SDI to use a standard methodology for collecting data and rating IHNs. Traditional primary and secondary research completes the data profiles of non-responders.

The SDI IHN Benchmark Report allows any IHN, regardless of whether or not it was rated in the top 100, to compare its scores in 33 data elements to those of selected competitors as well as to the average scores of all IHNs broken out by the top 10, top 100, and the remaining rated systems. This report includes color charts and subjective commentary for each of the eight rating categories.

For more information, please contact Pat Witman at 484-567-6322 or [pwitman@sdihealth.com](mailto:pwitman@sdihealth.com).

To see the top 100 networks, visit the [IHN information page](#) at [www.sdihealth.com](http://www.sdihealth.com).

## About [SDI](#)

SDI is a leading healthcare market insight and analytics firm. It provides the industry's most comprehensive de-identified patient-level data to pharmaceutical, biotech, retail pharmacy, and medical device companies, enabling them to better understand the healthcare market. SDI also serves the government and the financial services, media, and consumer packaged goods industries. SDI counts the world's top 50 pharmaceutical and biotech firms as its clients.