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## **Texas Health Resources and Aetna Establish New Partnership in North Texas**

Texas Health Resources and Aetna (NYSE: AET) have announced the creation of a jointly owned health plan company that will focus on improving quality, affordability and the overall consumer experience. By combining Texas Health's high-quality providers and investment in population health management with Aetna's health plan expertise, care management capabilities and analytical insights, employers and consumers in North Texas will benefit from more affordable, high-quality and better-coordinated care.

The partnership between Aetna and Texas Health is the first of its kind in North Texas to fully align the incentives and capabilities of a national insurer and major health system. By sharing ownership and accountability equally, the new health plan will focus on the consumer experience by combining fully integrated care teams, health insurance benefits and administrative services to eliminate redundancies of care and to reduce administrative hassles.

New fully-insured and self-insured commercial products will be offered to employers and consumers in 14 counties in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, including Collin, Cooke, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell, Tarrant and Wise counties, and are anticipated to be available on Jan. 1, 2017, pending regulatory approval.

The new partnership will feature the Southwestern Health Resources network as its core, which includes more than 500 physicians in Texas Health's employed physician group, Texas Health Physicians Group (THPG). Texas Health's 69 outpatient facilities include surgery centers, fitness centers, imaging centers and more than 250 other

community access points. Its hospitals include 16 acute-care facilities, along with six short-stay, one transitional care and two rehabilitation hospitals.

The partnership with Texas Health is Aetna's second joint venture with a nonprofit health system, as Aetna moves 75 percent of its contracts to value-based care models by 2020.

### **Texas Health buys Forest Park hospital in Fort Worth**

Texas Health Resources has announced that it has closed on its purchase of Forest Park Medical Center Fort Worth.

Texas Health paid \$116.5 million for the 150,000-square-foot hospital located at 5400 Clearfork Main St., and another \$4.5 million to the operating company for the releases necessary to take full control of the facility and begin operations. In a separate deal, Texas Health also purchased all equipment at the Forest Park location.

The purchase includes the hospital with 54 beds and 12 operating rooms, a medical office building and a parking garage. It is expected to become licensed as a department of Texas Health Southwest Fort Worth, which is located less than five miles away.

The purchase further grows Texas Health's network of hospitals and outpatient centers, which serve more than seven million residents in 16 counties in Dallas-Fort Worth.

The facility will be in-network for all commercial payers, Medicare and other government payers like Tricare along with offering the same charity care policy as the system's other hospitals. In 2015, Texas Health provided \$200 million in uncompensated care to Tarrant County.