FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE   **Contact:** AHCA Communications Office
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Agency Updates FloridaHealthFinder.gov Facility/Provider Comparison Tools
~Part of an ongoing effort to promote transparency and increase access to health care data~

Tallahassee, Fla.– The Agency for Health Care Administration (Agency) has rolled out a substantial update to the database that powers its popular health care comparison tool - FloridaHealthFinder.gov. The addition of this data will bring the metrics generated by the tool into the year 2014, providing users with a comprehensive and up to date overview of Florida's health care landscape.

The "Compare Care" section of FloridaHealthFinder.gov gives visitors the ability to access clinical outcome and performance measure data for hospitals, nursing homes, hospice providers, physicians and health plans. The recent update adds data pertaining to hospital and provider volume, health outcomes and provider quality/performance through March 2014. The Nursing Home Guide has also been updated to include inspection ratings through September 2014.

"We are constantly trying to find ways to improve FloridaHealthFinder.gov as a resource for health care transparency," said the Agency's Deputy Secretary for Health Quality Assurance, Molly McKinstry. "Expanding our data set and developing additional research tools has been an instrumental part in pushing the site past 3 million visits in 2014 – an achievement that we're very proud of."

FloridaHealthFinder.gov provides numerous additional resources, such as a health plan comparison tool, prescription drug pricing information, a health encyclopedia, a symptom navigator, and consumer publications and reports. Users will also find a Facility and Provider Locator tool (also available as a mobile app) that allows them to find nearby hospitals, assisted living facilities, nursing homes, home health agencies, and other providers licensed by the Agency. These listings provide links to inspection reports, complaint investigations, and emergency actions as well as addresses and driving directions.

In an effort to provide "Better Health Care for All Floridians," the updates made to FloridaHealthFinder.gov are just one part of an ongoing effort to provide Floridians with access to information that can empower them to make informed decisions about their health care.

The Agency for Health Care Administration is committed to better health care for all Floridians. The Agency administers Florida's Medicaid program, licenses and regulates more than 45,000 health care facilities and 34 health maintenance organizations, and publishes health care data and statistics at www.FloridaHealthFinder.gov. Additional information about Agency initiatives is available via Facebook (AHCAFlorida), Twitter (@AHCA_FL) and YouTube (/AHCAFlorida).

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