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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ANCC ANNOUNCES 2010 CERTIFIED SPECIALTY NURSE AWARD WINNER
RICHARD T. HADER, PhD, RN, NE-BC, FAAN, CHE, CPHQ**

SILVER SPRING, MD – The American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) announced Richard T. Hader, PhD, RN, NE-BC, FAAN, CHE, CPHQ, of Meridian Health in Neptune, New Jersey, as the winner of the 2010 Certified Specialty Nurse Award at the National Magnet Conference in Phoenix, Arizona. This award recognizes individual ANCC certified nurses for outstanding performance in their field.

Dr. Hader has led the transformation of nursing practice and patient care at Meridian Health through the development and implementation of unique programs centered on increasing successful patient outcomes. This initiative has led to a certification rate of more than 60% in nursing specialties throughout the organization, robust performance improvement projects within the clinical ladder programs, and outstanding organizational and patient outcomes. He is an innovative, visionary leader who inspires others to new heights of excellence.

Dr. Hader's visionary leadership led to the establishment of a unique interdisciplinary, patient-centered Institute for Evidence-based Care. In the 18 short months since its inception, the Institute has produced a research study on medication reconciliation, 15 interdisciplinary evidence reviews, five evidence-based webinars, and a ground-breaking interdisciplinary evidence-based regional conference.

Dr. Hader's commitment to ANCC is evident through his service as an ANCC Magnet Recognition Program[®] appraiser. He has served as a Magnet appraiser and team leader since 1998 and served on more than 20 review teams.

A significant achievement led by Dr. Hader was the establishment of the Georgian Court-Meridian Health School of Nursing, an innovative and unique partnership between a nonprofit, independent health system and a local Catholic university. This BSN program, established in 2008 under the stewardship of Dr. Hader, is the only general BSN program in Monmouth and Ocean counties. Further, Dr. Hader secured support for the establishment of the Ann May Center for Nursing Excellence, which offers scholarships, career development, mentorship, education, research, and peer support to hundreds of nurses.

"Richard Hader is one of Meridian Health's most valuable assets," says Kathleen Russell-Babin, senior manager for the Institute for Evidence-Based Care. "His outstanding knowledge and experience in healthcare administration are complemented by his abilities to rapidly and accurately assess situations and people to direct them on a path of success."

"Dr. Hader's remarkable contributions to nursing practice and his commitment to nursing certification make him the perfect choice for this award", says ANCC Executive Director Jeanne Floyd, PhD, RN, CAE.

About the ANCC Certified Specialty Nurse Award

The Certified Specialty Nurse Award was developed to recognize individual certified nurses for outstanding performance in their field. The Certified Specialty Nurse Award is awarded only to someone who has made significant contributions in the area of clinical practice, education, research, or service. Nominees are judged for innovation, consultation, leadership, and professional risk taking.

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About ANCC

The American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), a subsidiary of the American Nurses Association (ANA), provides individuals and organizations throughout the nursing profession with the resources they need to achieve practice excellence. ANCC's internationally renowned credentialing programs certify nurses in specialty practice areas; recognize healthcare organizations for promoting safe, positive work environments through the Magnet Recognition Program[®] and the Pathway to Excellence[®] Program; and accredit providers of continuing nursing education. In addition, ANCC's Institute for Credentialing Innovation[®] provides leading-edge information and education services and products to support its core credentialing programs. www.nursecredentialing.org

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