

Media Contact Kim Brown, APR Media Relations and Content Manager 817-266-3728 kim.brown3@cookchildrens.org

September 8, 2021

Cook Children's Health Plan Receives Accreditation from the National Committee for Quality Assurance

Fort Worth, Texas – Cook Children's Health Plan has received its first-ever accreditation from the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). This coveted award represents service and clinical quality that meet or exceed NCQA's rigorous requirements for consumer protection and quality improvement.

"This is an incredible achievement and demonstrates our unwavering commitment to providing the very best service to our more than 160,000 members," said Karen Love, president of Cook Children's Health Plan. "This recognition from NCQA distinguishes us as a premier provider with the continuous goal of keeping our members engaged in improving their health."

In order to receive NCQA accreditation, health plans must support care that keeps members at optimum levels of health while also controlling costs and meeting government and purchaser requirements. NCQA standards are a roadmap for improvement—organizations use them to perform a gap analysis and align improvement activities with areas that are most important to states and employers, such as network adequacy and consumer protection.

Standards evaluate plans on:

- Quality Management and Improvement.
- Population Health Management.
- Network Management.
- Utilization Management.
- Credentialing and Recredentialing.
- Members' Rights and Responsibilities.
- Member Connections.
- Medicaid Benefits and Services.

NCQA standards also provide a framework for improving key health plan performance in care coordination, access and member connections, availability of health resources such as wellness services and self-management tools for chronic disease management. NCQA is the most widely-recognized accreditation program in the United States and most comprehensive evaluation in the industry.

About Cook Children's

Cook Children's Health Care System embraces an inspiring Promise – to improve the health

of every child through the prevention and treatment of illness, disease and injury. Based in Fort Worth, Texas, we're proud of our long and rich tradition of serving our community.

Our not-for-profit organization encompasses nine companies – a medical center, two surgery centers, a physician network, home health services and a health plan. It also includes Child Study Center at Cook Children's, Cook Children's Health Services Inc., and Cook Children's Health Foundation. With more than 60 primary, specialty and urgent care locations throughout Texas, families can access our top-ranked specialty programs and network of services to meet their unique needs.

We've worked to improve the health of children from across our primary service area of Denton, Hood, Johnson, Parker, Tarrant and Wise counties for more than 100 years. Based on the exceptional care we provide, patients travel to Cook Children's from around the country and the globe to receive life-saving pediatric care built on leading technology, extraordinary collaboration and the art of caring.

For more information, visit cookchildrens.org and cookchp.org.

###