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RESEARCH INSTITUTE

For Immediate Release

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Medica Research Institute Names John Kralewski Ph.D. To Position of Senior Research Advisor and Kirsten Sundgaard-Riise Ph.D. To Position of Investigator

Minneapolis – The Medica Research Institute today has announced the hire of John Kralewski, Ph.D., as its senior research advisor and Kirsten Sundgaard-Riise, Ph.D., as an investigator. Their work at the Medica Research Institute began in November 2010.

- Kralewski will advise the Institute on its research agenda, the development of a research environment and mentor staff investigators. He is professor emeritus at the University of Minnesota School of Public Health. During his tenure at the university, he established the Institute for Health Services Research. Kralewski is a highly respected researcher in this field and has authored more than 140 journal publications with a focus on factors influencing costs and quality of care in medical group practice. He is a graduate of the University of Minnesota with a bachelor of science degree in pharmacy, a master's of health administration degree and a Ph.D. in health services research.
- Sundgaard-Riise will consult with the administrative team on infrastructure development within research environments and author grant proposals for sponsorship and study. She has worked in New Orleans in program evaluation and research psychologist roles focusing on behavioral health areas of anxiety, depression, co-occurring mental health and addictive disorders, and crisis management. She held some critical roles in this field working with recent hurricane victims. She is a graduate of St. Olaf College with a bachelors degree in psychology and a graduate of Tulane University with a master of science degree and Ph. D. in psychology. Sundgaard-Riise is a biostatistician and a licensed psychologist.

About the Medica Research Institute

The Medica Research Institute is a nonprofit 501(c) (3) foundation and a sister organization to Medica Health Plans, a Minnesota-based nonprofit HMO. The Research Institute was established in January 2010. Its mission is to conduct research that generates information for timely translation into activities which protect health and improve lives.. For more information about Medica Research Institute and its activities visit: www.MedicaResearchInstitute.org

About Medica

Medica is a health care services company headquartered in Minneapolis and active in the Upper Midwest. With nearly 1.6 million members, the non-profit company provides health care coverage in the employer, individual, Medicaid, Medicare and Medicare Part D markets in Minnesota and a growing number of counties in North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Medica also offers national network coverage to employers who also have employees outside the Medica regional network.

Medica has the highest accreditation status, Excellent, from the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA®) for its Minnesota Medicaid HMO plans and commercial health plans in Minnesota and North Dakota. Medica's vision is to become the community's health plan of choice, trusted for its integrity, respected for its service, and admired for its commitment to innovation and efficiency.

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