



**For Immediate Release**

November 14, 2011

**Medica Research Institute Names Kristina Bloomquist Executive Director**

**Minneapolis** – The Medica Research Institute has named Kristina Bloomquist executive director of the Media Research Institute. In this role, Bloomquist will lead all activities related to the administration of the Medica Research Institute, provide strategic leadership for its research agenda, and serve as the primary point of connection between the organization and the scientific community. Most recently, Bloomquist served as acting executive director.

“Over the past few years, Kristina has built a strong foundation for the Medica Research Institute in support of its mission to conduct research that generates information for timely translation into activities which protect health and improve lives,” said David Tilford, chief executive officer at Medica and chairperson of the Medica Research Institute board of directors. “I look forward to continue working with Kristina as we conduct leading research through contributions of significance to the scientific community and translatable benefit to those who interact with the healthcare system.”

Bloomquist joined Medica’s health management area in 1999. She was instrumental in leveraging quality improvement-based research to develop numerous programs in support of Medica’s population health and disease management programs. In 2009, Kristina was appointed director of the new Medica Research Institute.

Prior to joining Medica, Kristina worked at the Memorial University Medical Center in Savannah Georgia, where she developed and directed operations for a health risk reduction and wellness center.

**About the Medica Research Institute**

The Medica Research Institute is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) foundation and a sister organization to Medica, a Minnesota-based nonprofit health services company. The Medica 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 the Medica Research Institute and its activities visit: [www.MedicaResearchInstitute.org](http://www.MedicaResearchInstitute.org).

**About Medica**

Medica is a health care services company headquartered in Minneapolis and active in the Upper Midwest. With more than 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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