



For Immediate Release

July 6, 2011

Medica Research Institute Names Gretchen Cutler, Ph.D., MPH to Position of Investigator

Minneapolis – The Medica Research Institute today has announced the hire of Gretchen Cutler, Ph.D., MPH as an investigator. Her work at the Medica Research Institute began on June 27, 2011.

Prior to joining the Medica Research Institute, Cutler was a senior epidemiologist at the Minnesota Department of Health. Cutler holds a doctorate and masters in epidemiology and community health from the Division of Epidemiology and Community Health, School of Public Health, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN. She received her bachelor of arts in biology and child psychology from the University of Minnesota.

Cutler's publications are in the areas of dietary patterns in adolescents, demographic and environmental correlates of these patterns, and the associations between adherence to healthy and unhealthy patterns and obesity. She has also examined the associations between dietary intake and cancer risk in adult populations. Cutler has presented papers she has written on these topic areas at both regional and national conferences

In her role at the Medica Research Institute, Cutler will work with John Kralewski, Ph.D., the senior research advisor, to develop a research agenda track that examines social and environmental determinants of public health.

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.

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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