

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

For Academic Group:
Frances Smith
frances.smith@academicins.com
646-808-0608

For ELM:
Jennifer Hurley, CPHRM
jhurley@elmexchange.com
646-536-7544, ext. 303

ACADEMIC GROUP AND ELM EXCHANGE ANNOUNCE EXPANSION OF ONLINE EDUCATION PROGRAM TO INCLUDE NURSE EDUCATION

(Manhattan, New York and Rockville, Maryland) — Academic Group and ELM Exchange, Inc. are pleased to announce the expansion of Academic's online healthcare risk management and patient safety education program. Using ELM's proprietary learning management system, the *ELM Risk & Safety InstituteSM*. Academic will extend its online education program to the nursing professionals working within the State University of New York ("SUNY") and Westchester ("WMC") Academic Medical Centers. ELM has already delivered more than 67,000 online courses to over 3,300 teaching physicians and residents in the SUNY system.

"ELM's recent accreditation by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) and its ability to award contact hours has given us another fantastic avenue for continuing to improve the quality of patient care," said Martin Kern, CEO of Academic Group. "Our partnership with ELM has helped us properly manage the frequency and severity of medical malpractice claims for our physician insureds – part of the proactive loss prevention strategies Academic has instituted. We offer online education programs to our insured faculty as well as residents (for free) throughout the state at hospitals affiliated with our medical schools. We are looking forward to the additional benefit that adding nursing education will offer the system."

ELM's online continuing medical education courses are based on actual medical malpractice cases and redacted into relatable stories by its staff of physician/attorneys. The courses help healthcare professionals understand error generation and how the actions of the involved healthcare providers may have changed the course for the patient's benefit. "We are committed to our mission of partnering with healthcare organizations to increase the quality of patient care," said Sal Fiscina, MD, JD, Chief Executive Officer of ELM, "Academic is committed to education and to advancing quality of care. We are fortunate to have such a progressive partner."

The new nursing education program is now immediately available to Academic Group clients and accessible through their website:

<http://www.academicins.com/onlineEducationGeneralConditions.html>



About Academic Group

The Academic Group consists of two independent insurance companies and an insurance management company. The first company was founded by physicians and dental professionals as a New York admitted insurer to meet the unique professional liability insurance needs of teaching faculty, and owned and governed by members. The second company now provides insurance solutions for medical students beyond academia through a Vermont domiciled Risk Retention Group, Academic Medical Professionals Insurance Exchange (AMPIE). www.academicins.com

About ELM Exchange

For more than 25 years, ELM Exchange has advanced healthcare quality and patient safety by proactively enabling healthcare professionals to better identify and mitigate risk in their clinical practice. ELM's best-in-class, comprehensive suite of online healthcare risk management and patient safety education programs and resources serve as an invaluable loss prevention initiative for professional liability insurers. Strategically developed by a core team of physician attorneys and medical-legal experts, ELM's curriculum of more than 150 different courses including offerings for 26 different medical specialties, provides a risk management solution unmatched in its ability to decrease the errors that lead to litigation - increasing quality of care and reducing costs.

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