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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **FIRST PATIENT DATA FLOWING FROM EAST SIDE CLINICAL LABORATORY, INC. INTO CURRENTCARE®, RHODE ISLAND'S HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE**

***Major milestone achieved toward improving health quality for all Rhode Islanders***

PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND—The Rhode Island Quality Institute (RIQI) announced today that patient data is now flowing from East Side Clinical Laboratory, Inc. into currentcare, the Statewide Health Information Exchange. currentcare is a secure electronic system which will allow doctors and other care givers immediate access to a patient's up-to-date health information in order to provide the best possible and most comprehensive care.

"East Side Clinical Laboratory is extremely committed to quality care as well as to improving our healthcare system," stated Laura Adams, President and CEO of the Rhode Island Quality Institute. "They have been a dedicated partner in this statewide effort right from the beginning and, as a result of their understanding of the importance of currentcare, their patients will be among the first to benefit."

East Side Clinical Laboratory annually assists an average of 240,000 unique patients, totaling 900,000 annual patient encounters. As a result of East Side Clinical Laboratory's participation, the diagnostic test results of their enrolled patients are now being sent directly into currentcare. To date, RIQI has enrolled nearly 140,000 Rhode Islanders in currentcare.

"Having been a part of this important initiative since its inception, it's exciting to see our collective efforts come to fruition and especially be the first to provide patient data to currentcare," commented Jim Feeney, Vice President Information Technology of East Side Clinical Laboratory. "currentcare is a key component to helping us improve the quality of healthcare in Rhode Island and we're delighted to be working with RIQI toward this important goal."

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In addition to East Side Clinical Laboratory, Lifespan, Care New England, South County Hospital, Blackstone Valley Community Health Center, Quest Diagnostics and Surescripts have signed agreements with RIQI to submit consented patient information to currentcare in the very near future. Projects to implement these additional data flows are underway now. All are expected to be operational before the end of July.

"The Rhode Island Department of Health (HEALTH) has been working closely with the Rhode Island Quality Institute (RIQI) to develop and implement currentcare," said Interim Director of Health Michael Fine, MD. "currentcare will allow healthcare providers and healthcare facilities to access enrolled patients' medical information that they did not already have. It is one component of an ongoing effort to improve the quality of healthcare provided in the state."

InterSystems Corporation, a global leader in software for connected health care, was also integral to the launch of currentcare. The company, based in Cambridge, Massachusetts, provided the software and professional services necessary to accomplish the successful integration of the currentcare system.

currentcare will contribute to the reduction of medical errors, prevention of avoidable hospitalizations and emergency room visits and improve care coordination between providers. As data from East Side Clinical Laboratory and others accumulates in currentcare, plans are being implemented to enable providers to have access to the data.

For more information on currentcare and to enroll, visit [www.currentcareri.com](http://www.currentcareri.com)

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**About East Side Clinical Laboratory, Inc.**

*Established in 1949, East Side Clinical Laboratory, Inc. is headquartered in East Providence, Rhode Island. East Side Clinical Laboratory, with a geographically diverse network of over 50 locations in Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts, services a diverse clientele comprised of single and multi physician practices, community health centers, home health agencies, businesses, and over 95 percent of the long term care facilities in Rhode Island. East Side Clinical Laboratory is licensed and accredited by the College of American Pathologists (CAP), the Rhode Island Department of Health, and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). East Side Clinical Laboratory is the lowest cost provider of services in the area as well as being a provider for all of the health insurance plans available in Rhode Island and is the exclusive provider of out-patient services for the Blue CHIP for Medicare plan. For more information, please contact at 401-455-8400 or [www.eastsidelab.com](http://www.eastsidelab.com)*

**About the Rhode Island Quality Institute (RIQI)**

*Founded in 2001, the Rhode Island Quality Institute (RIQI) is a collaboration of leaders in the Rhode Island community who share the intent to substantively improve the healthcare system in the state. The collaboration includes CEOs of hospitals, health insurers, and businesses, along with leaders of consumer groups, academia, and government. RIQI's mission is to significantly improve the quality, safety, and value of health care in Rhode Island. RIQI is the Governor-designated sole Regional Health Information Organization (RHIO) for Rhode Island, chosen to coordinate the statewide Health Information Exchange (HIE). As the RHIO, RIQI is charged with bringing together health care stakeholders within the state and governing HIE among them for the purpose of improving health outcomes in the community. For more information, visit [www.RIQI.org](http://www.RIQI.org).*