

For Immediate Release

CATAWBA WOMEN'S CENTER EARNS NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR QUALITY CARE

Washington, DC – The National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) today announced that Catawba Women's Center of Hickory has received NCQA Recognition as a Patient-Centered Specialty Practice (PCSP) for its responsiveness to patients and medical colleagues, cooperation and integration with other health care groups, and dedication to continuous improvement.

Earning NCQA Recognition shows that Catawba Women's Center has undergone a rigorous review of its capabilities and is committed to communication, coordination and providing access to care. Recognition signals to primary care practices that Catawba Women's Center is ready to be an effective partner in caring for patients they have in common.

“NCQA Patient-Centered Specialty Practice Recognition distinguishes practices that communicate, collaborate and integrate care in ways that patients want and that improve quality”, said NCQA President Margaret E. O’Kane. “I commend the team at Catawba Women's Center for its achievement, and for its commitment to continuous improvement.”

Catawba Women's Center met or exceeded national standards for:

- Communication with primary care clinicians to exchange key information and establish coordinated care plans.
- Providing timely access to care and clinical advice based on patient need.
- Using a systematic approach to track referrals and coordinate care.
- Measuring and improving performance over time.

PCSP recognition is modeled on and complements NCQA's Patient-Centered-Medical Home (PCMH) Recognition program, the most widely adopted medical home model in the country. A medical home is a way of organizing primary care that uses teamwork and technology to improve quality, improve patient's experience of care and reduce costs. PCSP recognition highlights the “neighbors” in medical specialties that surround and inform the medical home and colleagues in primary care. For more information: contact Catawba Women's Center at 828.322.4140.