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**CONTINUUM HEALTH PARTERS NAMED
AMONG THE NATION'S "MOST WIRED" HOSPITALS/HEALTH SYSTEMS**

New York, NY (July 22, 2010) Continuum Health Partners, which consists of five distinguished voluntary teaching hospitals including Beth Israel Medical Center, Roosevelt Hospital, St. Luke's Hospital, Long Island College Hospital and New York Eye & Ear Infirmary, has been named among the nation's "most wired" hospitals and health systems, according to results in the 2010 Most Wired Survey Benchmarking Study.

The survey, conducted annually and released in the July issue of *Hospitals & Health Networks* magazine, the journal of the American Hospital Association, recognizes organizations for their achievements in four focus areas: infrastructure, business and administrative management, clinical quality and safety and the care continuum. This year, the survey included new and revised questions base on concepts of meaningful use – federal standards that must be met in order to be considered a "meaningful provider" of IT services and therefore eligible for federal incentive payments through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Meaningful use of electronic medical technology provides for reduced medical errors and better patient care.

"I'm delighted that Continuum Health Partners has been recognized for the third consecutive year as one of the 'Most Wired' hospitals/systems in the country," says Gail F. Donovan, Continuum Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. "It is a testament to the level of information technology investment that we have made in our hospitals over the past ten years—and the hard work and dedication of our IT leadership, staff and all those involved in implementing, maintaining and using these systems."

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Some of the recent information technology initiatives at Continuum have included:

- **EcW** -- a broad implementation of an electronic medical record for outpatient treatment in physician offices, involving employed and affiliated physicians, along with an infrastructure to support clinical data exchange.
- **Obstetrics EMR**-- a labor and delivery software system which is designed to support clinical decision support in the arena of obstetrics.
- **Electronic Signout / Discharge Summary Application** -- supports the communication of key clinical information at transitions of care (sign-out when physicians go off duty and discharge summary that is available at the time of discharge). The IT team took an application written by a few doctors and brought up to IT standards to ultimately make it available throughout the hospital system.

In addition to these recent IT initiatives, Continuum is working on the implementation of a bar coding system to support patient identification and delivery of care. The IT team also continues to use data from their systems to drive continuous quality improvement initiatives, as defined by our Quality and Patient Safety goals and initiatives.

Officials say the 2010 survey, conducted in cooperation with the American Hospital Association, McKesson Corp. and the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME), included new and revised questions based on concepts of meaningful use. The cover story in the July issue of H&HN detailing the results is available at www.hhnmag.com. For more information about Continuum Health Partners, visit www.chpnyc.org.

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