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NEWS RELEASE

*(For immediate release)*

## **FAIRFIELD MEDICAL CENTER SIX SIGMA TEAM PRESENTS AT TOP EXECUTIVE CONFERENCES**

**LANCASTER, Ohio (February 25, 2010)** – The Six Sigma Department at Fairfield Medical Center knows what it takes to rise above and meet a challenge head on. The staff of the Six Sigma Department recently was one of the key speakers at the Amerinet Executive Roundtable Conference titled “Creating a Culture of Quality and Patient Safety.” The conference was held on February 11, 2010 at La Costa Resort in Carlsbad, California and focused on trends in healthcare and improving healthcare quality and safety. Presenters included Jerome Roche, MD, Chief Medical Officer; Rob Rothwell, BS, Six Sigma Decision Support Manager; and Celeste Schmelzer, MSN, RN, Six Sigma Black Belt.

A key part of the presentation was a live demonstration given by Rob Rothwell regarding the infrastructure required for hospitals to use real-time dynamic checklists to ensure timely, appropriate patient care. Such information is crucial for hospitals to find ways to improve their processes, which also improves patient quality.

The Six Sigma team will also present at the Amerinet Member Conference scheduled on May 18, 2010. The focus will once again be on “A Journey to a Culture of Quality and Patient Safety,” but this time it will be broken down in two parts: Part I: Understanding High Reliability Care and Part II: Demonstrating Real-Time Checklists and Metrics.

Over the years, Amerinet has grown to become one of the nation’s largest, most innovative and effective health care group purchasing organizations in the United States. It partners with hospitals and non-acute care facilities to reduce costs of supplies that patients need when hospitalized. More than 2,100 hospitals and 38,000 non-acute care facilities utilize its services.

“We really did receive a warm welcome from the participants and were honored to be given the opportunity to present,” Celeste Schmelzer noted after the conference. “We presented a great deal of information that hospital leadership can take back to their facilities and incorporate into their own culture and processes. It was gratifying to share the impact such methods have had at Fairfield Medical Center and I look forward to presenting again in May with my colleagues.” She also said that it was invigorating to see the dedication Amerinet has to ensure the quality and safety of patients in hospitals throughout the country.

The Six Sigma philosophy was introduced to Fairfield Medical Center in May of 2004. Six Sigma staff uses a highly disciplined statistical process that enables Fairfield Medical Center to focus on developing and delivering near-perfect service to all of our patients who deserve the highest quality of care. As a business philosophy, Six Sigma drives the way the Center deals with change and the way it conducts daily business by focusing on customers, data, and processes to improve services.

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