



## **Value-Based Purchasing Performance Assessment Tool Available at No Cost to All Hospitals from Sound Physicians**

**Tacoma, WA – July 21, 2011** – Sound Physicians, a leading hospitalist organization focused on measurably improving the quality, satisfaction, efficiency and financial performance of healthcare delivery, today announced the availability of its **Value-Based Purchasing Performance Assessment Tool** to all hospitals at no cost.

The tool provides hospitals with a snapshot of their performance on the Value-Based Purchasing clinical process of care and patient experience of care measures, including the hospital's overall performance score using the scoring methodology from the Hospital Inpatient Value-Based Purchasing Program (VBP) issued by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on April 29, 2011.

Sound Physicians is making this tool available to all hospitals, so leaders can assess current performance and identify areas for improvement without having to do the complicated calculations themselves. "Over the past decade, we've invested deeply in our people and performance management expertise to help hospitals achieve results using their hospitalist programs," said Robert Bessler, M.D., CEO of Sound Physicians. "Our partners are able to leverage our deep, focused investments in training, informatics and clinical process."

Dr. Bessler is also hosting a complimentary webcast on Value-Based Purchasing on August 11, 2011 at 4p.m. ET. He will be joined by Leslie V. Norwalk, Esq., a former head of CMS and Edward G. Murphy, M.D., one of only two physicians to be included in all seven annual rankings of the 50 Most Influential Physician Executives by Modern Healthcare and past President of Carilion Clinic. Hospital leaders can register for the webcast at: [www.soundphysicians.com/vbpwebcast](http://www.soundphysicians.com/vbpwebcast).

Starting July 1, 2011, hospitals will either be rewarded or penalized for their performance on 12 clinical process of care measures and eight patient experience of care measures. CMS will withhold approximately \$850 million in FY 2013 and then redistribute those funds as incentive payments, with low performing hospitals effectively subsidizing high-performing hospitals. Many hospitals stand to lose several million dollars over the next five years.

Sound Physicians' Value-Based Performance Assessment Tool allows hospital leaders to quickly see how much money is at risk and how much their lack of performance on specific measures will cost them without improvement. Hospital executives can request a complimentary copy of the performance assessment for their hospital by either registering for the webcast or sending an e-mail to [performance@soundphysicians.com](mailto:performance@soundphysicians.com).

### **About Sound Physicians**

Sound Physicians is a leading hospitalist organization focused on driving improvements in quality, satisfaction and efficiency of inpatient health care delivery. By investing deeply in outstanding physicians, clinical process excellence and its proprietary workflow and informatics technology, Sound Physicians is defining hospital medicine. Sound Physicians seamlessly partners with healthcare providers to measurably enhance patient outcomes and strengthen the hospital's financial performance. To learn more visit: [www.soundphysicians.com](http://www.soundphysicians.com).

### **Media Contact**

Daven Rosener  
[drosener@soundphysicians.com](mailto:drosener@soundphysicians.com)  
800-850-9665

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