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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Quality Expert Named at Region's Hospital Association**

(Newburgh, NY . . . September 19, 2011) Hospital quality expert Mary Jane Milano was named the director of quality and education for the Northern Metropolitan Hospital Association (NorMet) and its two sister organizations – the Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council (NSHC) headquartered in Hauppauge, NY and the Rochester Regional Health Care Association headquartered in Rochester, NY. NorMet is the association that represents hospitals in the lower and mid-Hudson Valley.

Milano will assist hospital members in all areas of performance improvement and quality standards, including patient safety. This newly created position supports existing staff at NorMet who lead several quality-improvement initiatives, under both the Association and the state's first federally-certified patient safety organization, the NorMet Patient Safety Institute. NorMet's focus in these areas reflects the commitment of its 27 member hospitals to continuous improvement and to providing the safest, highest quality patient care.

Milano most recently served as director of the Physician Quality Collaborative for the Monroe County Medical Society in Rochester and as project director, Emergency Preparedness Program for the Rochester Regional Healthcare Association. Through her policy work on the regional level, as well as on the national level with the American Hospital Association, Milano understands the interplay between health care quality, cost, access, and value.

She holds a Master's Degree in Health Services Administration from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.

(Photo attached)

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