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SSM Health Care announces new name, enhanced patient promise

ST. LOUIS, MO (September 9, 2014) – Today, SSM Health Care is announcing that it will be changing its name to SSM Health. This name will link together the many health care services offered across the multi-state system. However, beyond just the name change, this represents SSM's renewed promise to improve the lives of its patients and the health of its communities.

The organization is changing to SSM Health because it better reflects its commitment to managing health and wellness, not just treating illness.

“We are transforming to provide the care that our patients and our communities need and deserve,” said William P. Thompson, President and CEO of SSM Health Care. “Our mission calls us to deliver high quality health care that is affordable, sustainable, and convenient to access. In simple terms, we want to provide an exceptional experience to any and all who come to us. This is the promise we want to make as an organization.”

Over the next few years, this name change and enhanced focus on the patient experience will be implemented at every SSM location.

Those living in Mid-Missouri will see changes first. This fall, SSM Health will be introduced into the region, which consists of two hospitals, a network of medical group offices, home care and hospice services, and multiple outpatient locations. The new name will also be reflected at the new St. Mary's hospital in Jefferson City, set to open on November 16.

Expect to hear more about this transformation soon. Currently, SSM employees are gathering together across the system to develop and design a consistent approach to delivering an exceptional experience in every encounter.

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About SSM Health Care

SSM Health Care (www.ssmhc.com) is a Catholic, not-for-profit health system serving the comprehensive health needs of communities across the Midwest through one of the largest integrated delivery systems in the nation.

With care delivery sites in Illinois, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Wisconsin, SSM includes 19 hospitals, more than 60 outpatient care sites, a pharmacy benefit company, an insurance company, two nursing homes, comprehensive home care and hospice services, a technology company, and two Accountable Care Organizations. With more than 1,300 employed physicians and nearly 30,000 employees in four states, SSM is one of the largest employers in every community it serves. An early adopter of the electronic health record (EHR), SSM is a national leader for the depth of its EHR integration. The addition of Dean Health System in 2013 brings the number of physician visits across SSM Health Care to 4 million annually.