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WellMed Acquires Three Area Medical Care Centers to Enhance Patient Care in West Texas and New Mexico

WellMed's whole-patient approach will enhance patient care quality and health outcomes for seniors in El Paso, Texas, and Santa Teresa, N.M.

New additions support OptumCare's goal of improving health care quality and efficiency in local communities

San Antonio– WellMed Medical Management, a physician-led health care company that is a part of OptumCare, has added three senior-focused primary care clinics in West Texas and New Mexico to enhance care for Medicare-eligible patients.

WellMed Medical Management acquired Eastside Medical Care and Westside Medical Care centers in El Paso, Texas, and Santa Teresa Medical Care Center in Santa Teresa, N.M., and has assumed operations for the group's 11 health care providers and more than 75 staff.

"The physicians and primary care providers joining the WellMed team have a long history of providing quality, effective health care in their communities," said Dr. Carlos Hernandez, president of WellMed Medical Group. "Our support and whole-patient approach will complement the important work they do in delivering vital medical services."

"Partnering with WellMed will further enhance our ability to provide our patients the highest quality care," said Dr. Edward Juarez, lead physician at the new WellMed at Lee Trevino in El Paso and majority owner of the three acquired clinics. "WellMed and our clinics are committed to helping patients achieve the best possible outcomes."

WellMed will build upon these practices' success by integrating its whole-patient approach that emphasizes preventive health care – a model shown to reduce hospital and emergency room visits while improving health outcomes for people 65 and older. Patients at these three medical centers will have access to after-hours and weekend care at nearby WellMed clinics.

Patients with chronic conditions such as diabetes, heart disease and chronic emphysema qualify to enroll in WellMed's Disease Management program. This give patients added help from a Health Coach, a registered nurse on staff who complements the coordination of care by working with the patient and, at times, their family to develop an effective health care plan to better manage and control their disease.

The centers have been rebranded **WellMed at Lee Trevino** and **WellMed at Mesa** in El Paso, Texas, and the company's first clinic in New Mexico, **WellMed at Santa Teresa**. A business office at 5547 N. Mesa, Ste. B also was part of the acquisition. Office staff there now supports all 10 WellMed clinics in West Texas/New Mexico.

Financial terms of the deal were not disclosed.

Additional information about the clinics:

WellMed at Lee Trevino, led by **Dr. Edward Juarez**, specializes in internal and general medicine. Dr. Juarez earned his medical degree from Universidad Autonoma de Ciudad Juarez in Chihuahua, Mexico. **Dr. Oswaldo Cajas**, specializing in family medicine and general practice, will also see patients as a primary care capacity. He earned his medical degree from the Universidad de Guayaquil in Guayaquil, Ecuador. The clinic is open after hours certain days weekly and Saturdays.

The clinic is supported by Nurse Practitioners Crystal Carbajal and Sheri Fallin, Physician Assistant Michael Esquivel, and Physical Therapist Moses Blancas. WellMed at Lee Trevino is equipped for occupational and physical therapy in its 14,226-square-foot clinic, located at 1721 N. Lee Trevino in El Paso, Texas, 79936. The phone number is 915-590-9424.

WellMed at Mesa (1501 N. Mesa in El Paso, Texas, 79902, 915-532-1222) spans 2,200 square feet. Its care providers are **Dr. Mauricio Jimenez**, internal and family medicine, and **Dr. Hector Martinez**, internal medicine. Dr. Jimenez earned his medical degree in Brazil from Universidade Federal do Espírito Santo in Vitória, Espírito Santo. Dr. Martinez earned his medical degree from Universidad Nacional de Córdoba in Córdoba, Argentina.

WellMed at Santa Teresa, at 5055 McNutt Road in Santa Teresa, N.M., 88008, is the first WellMed clinic in New Mexico. The lead physician is **Dr. Henry Calderoni**, family medicine, who earned his medical degree from Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara (Facultad de Medicina) in Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico. **Dr. Douglas Zischkau**, family medicine, also practices at the clinic. He earned his medical degree at Universidad Autonoma de Ciudad Juarez in Chihuahua, Mexico. The clinic is supported by Nurse Practitioner Inemesito Udo. The phone number is 575-589-5005. The clinic is open after hours certain days weekly and Saturdays.

WellMed, a 25-year-old physician-led health care company and part of OptumCare, operates more than 100 senior-focused primary care and multispecialty clinics in Texas, Florida and New Mexico. Through its clinics and medical management services supporting 7,000 independent physicians, WellMed serves more than 200,000 mostly Medicare-eligible patients. OptumCare helps physicians and other care providers deliver personalized care to keep patients healthier and feeling their best. In local markets where it operates, OptumCare collaborates with multiple health plans, care providers and employers to meet the needs of the broader community.

WellMed Medical Management is a 25-year old physician-led healthcare delivery company serving **200,000+** patients in Texas and Florida through primary care clinics, multispecialty clinics and contracted medical management services. Most patients are Medicare-eligible seniors. Founded in 1990 by noted physician Dr. George Rapier III, the vision of the growing enterprise is to change the face of healthcare delivery for seniors. WellMed is part of OptumCare, a business of health services leader Optum.