



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Ohio Association of Health Plans Statement on IMPROVE Initiative**

COLUMBUS -- The following is a statement from Kelly McGivern, President and CEO of the Ohio Association of Health Plans on the IMPROVE (Implementing Medicaid Programs for the Reduction of Avoidable Visits to the Emergency Department) initiative that is kicking off at a conference tomorrow morning.

“The Ohio Association of Health Plans and our member Medicaid Care Coordination plans are pleased to be partnering with Ohio’s hospitals, doctors, consumer advocates and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services to identify ways to help reduce avoidable visits to the emergency room. While Ohio’s Care Coordination Plans have a proven history of reducing avoidable visits to the emergency room – more can be accomplished. Working together to avoid high-cost emergency room care through education and a focus on primary care services, we can achieve better care for patients, cost savings to the state of Ohio and allow emergency room staff to concentrate on those in true need of emergency room care.”

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