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## **NEWS RELEASE**

## BRUCE SCHWARTZ, M.D., TO LEAD AHA'S SECTION FOR PSYCHIATRIC AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

WASHINGTON—February 7, 2012— Bruce Schwartz, M.D., deputy chairman and professor of clinical psychiatry of the department of psychiatry and behavioral sciences, Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, N.Y., and CEO, president and medical director of University Behavioral Associates and MBCIPA, is the 2012 chair of the American Hospital Association's (AHA) Section for Psychiatric and Substance Abuse Services. The governing council represents 1,300 behavioral health providers across the country. During his one-year term, Dr. Schwartz and the 16-person governing council will work with the AHA to identify ways to define and focus AHA policy, advocacy and member resources to improve the quality, efficiency, and delivery of psychiatric and substance abuse services.

Dr. Schwartz has been clinical director of psychiatry for Montefiore Medical Center since 1985 and deputy chairman of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Additionally, he helped create a behavioral management services organization, University Behavioral Associates in 1995, for which he serves as president, CEO, and medical director. Montefiore's Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral provides comprehensive care for a full spectrum of general and specialty inpatient and outpatient services, and has one of the most advanced neuropsychiatric service centers and emergency and crisis

intervention programs. Expert psychiatric consultation services for hospitalization or outpatient needs are available 24/7.

Dr. Schwartz's commitment to creating integrated delivery systems is demonstrated by his service on committees for many organizations, including the Greater New York Hospital Association's PPS Psychiatry Advisory Workgroup and Mental Health/Substance Abuse Services Committee, the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's NYPD— Emergency Departments Task Force, the New York Academy of Medicine's Committee on Admission and the AHA's 2005-2007 Behavioral Health Task Force. Additionally, he serves on Mental Health Association of New York City's Professional Advisory Board as chair and on its Strategic Planning Committee and Board of Directors. Dr. Schwartz is also a consultant, the past chairman of the American Psychiatric Association's Council of Healthcare Systems and Financing and past AHA liaison to the Committees of the American Psychiatric Association.

A graduate of the City University of New York, Queens College, Flushing, Dr. Schwartz earned his medical degree from SUNY Downstate Medical College in Brooklyn.

Paul Summergrad, M.D., the Dr. Frances S. Arkin professor and chairman, department of psychology, and professor of medicine at Tufts University School of Medicine, Boston, is the chair-elect and will assume the role of chair in 2013. Robin Henderson, PsyD, director, behavioral health services, St. Charles Medical Center, Bend, Ore., is immediate-past chair.

Additionally, new members elected to serve for three-year terms beginning January 1, 2012, are:

- **Jacob Cuellar, M.D.**, chief executive officer, Peak Behavioral Health Services, Santa Teresa, N.M.
- **George A. Godlewski, Ph.D.**, associate vice president, division of psychiatry quality and safety, Geisinger Health System, Danville, PA.
- Lynn Dunn, director, Mental Health Services, Advanced Practice & Magnet Coordinator, Froedtert Health Community Memorial Hospital, Menomonee Falls, WI.

## **About the Section for Psychiatric and Substance Abuse Services**

The AHA Section for Psychiatric and Substance Abuse Services (SPSAS) provides perspective on behavioral health issues. SPSAS represents over 1,300 providers, including psychiatric services provided in general acute care hospitals, as well as freestanding adult, child & adolescent psychiatric hospitals and alcohol & drug hospitals. The purpose of the Section is to promote and enhance the understanding and importance of behavioral health care thru AHA policy, advocacy, and service efforts specific to psychiatric and substance abuse service providers. For more information, visit the AHA Web site at www.aha.org/psych.

## **About the AHA**

The AHA is a not-for-profit association of health care provider organizations that are committed to health improvement in their communities. The AHA is the national advocate for its members, which include almost 5,000 hospitals, health care systems, networks and other providers of care. Founded in 1898, AHA provides education for health care leaders and is a source of information on health care issues and trends. For more information, visit the AHA Web site at <a href="https://www.aha.org">www.aha.org</a>.