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**For Immediate Release**

## **New Mexico's Medicaid Health Plans Ranked among the Best in the Nation**

*U.S. News & World Report* Ranks "America's Best Health Plans" on Prevention,  
Treatment and Member Satisfaction

*Santa Fe, October 29, 2007* – *U.S. News and World Report* has ranked all three of New Mexico's Medicaid SALUD! plans in the top 30 out of nearly 200 in the nation.

Molina Health Care received the 25<sup>th</sup> best ranking, followed by Lovelace Community Health Plan at 27<sup>th</sup> and Presbyterian Health Plan at 28<sup>th</sup>. This year's ranking improves upon last year's when all three Managed Care Organizations made it into the top 40 best Medicaid plans.

"We are pleased to see improvements each year through this annual evaluation for the nearly 410,000 New Mexicans who are receiving their health care through the Medicaid program," said Secretary Pamela Hyde of the Human Services Department, which administers the Medicaid program in New Mexico. "It is good to know that no matter which Medicaid plan they choose, New Mexicans are going to get quality health care coverage."

The Medicaid health plans were evaluated in three categories: prevention, treatment and consumer assessment, based on the findings from the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

Molina received an overall score of 82.5 out of a total of 100, followed by Lovelace with a score of 82.1 and Presbyterian with an 81.8 score. The report is intended to help American consumers choose a health care plan based on quality.

A full set of rankings, plan-by-plan details and the ability to compare plans is available at <http://www.usnews.com/>.

The story is featured in the November 5, 2007 issue of *U.S. News & World Report*, which hit the newsstands beginning this week.

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