

## "Health First Integrates Meducation with Allscripts Sunrise at Health First's Cape Canaveral Hospital"

Morrisville, NC (April 25, 2016) Health First, a not-for-profit, community healthcare system in Central Florida, has integrated Polyglot Systems' Meducation® software with its Allscripts Sunrise<sup>TM</sup> EHR and has implemented this integration at Health First's Cape Canaveral Hospital in Cocoa Beach, FL. This is the first Meducation-Sunrise integration ever, enabling Health First providers to access Meducation from within clinical workflow to provide medication instructions that any patient can understand. This promises to be an added benefit for Health First and its patients.

Meducation representatives worked closely with Ron McGrier, Pharmacy Manager at Cape Canaveral Hospital and his Interdisciplinary Team to make this integration possible.

"Health First providers can now use Meducation without interrupting their normal workflow," said Edye Cleary, Chief Quality Officer for Health First. "This allows patients to have medication instructions that are clear, easy to understand and follow and tailored to each individual patient."

Poor medication adherence increases emergency room visits, hospital readmissions and mortality rates. It also impairs providers' bottom lines as they grapple with increasingly common value and risk-based reimbursement models. In part, poor adherence is caused by the wide use of medication instructions that are written at college reading levels, printed in small font sizes and available only in English. They are of little value to the nearly 120 million patients that are low health literate or have difficulty understanding English.

Meducation improves patient health and providers' financial performance by generating instructions that every patient can understand and follow. Instructions are:

- Tailored to each patient with his or her unique "sig" directions,
- Written at a 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade reading level,
- Available in any of 21 different languages,
- Formatted with pictograms to convey information clearly, and
- Augmented with video demonstrations showing proper use of certain devices

"No patient should be given medication instructions that are confusing or difficult to understand" said Lori McLean, Polyglot Systems, Inc.'s COO. "By integrating Meducation with their Allscripts EHR, Health First has demonstrated their commitment to innovation and to truly patient-centered care."

## **About Polyglot Systems**

<u>Polyglot</u> Systems' award-winning Meducation software was developed under a grant from the National Institutes of Health to address the communication barriers between healthcare providers and their patients. By improving patient understanding, medication adherence and overall patient health are improved, reducing healthcare costs and increasing patient satisfaction. Polyglot's products have been licensed to hospitals, health systems, clinics and pharmacies.

For more information: Polyglot Systems Inc, email <u>info@pgsi.com</u> or visit <u>www.pgsi.com</u>

## **About HealthFirst**

Founded in 1995, Health First is Brevard County's not-for-profit, community healthcare system. The fully integrated delivery network (IDN) includes health insurance plans, hospitals, a multi-specialty medical group and outpatient and wellness services. As a locally owned, not-for-profit organization, Health First is committed to investing in our community. In 2015, Health First provided more than \$129 million in community support. To learn more about Health First and how we're giving back to our community, please visit HFgivesback.org.