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Masspro's Senior Director of Quality Improvement Services Selected to Participate in the Institute of Healthcare Improvement's Improvement Advisor Professional Development Program

Waltham, MA – October 26, 2006 – Masspro, the Medicare Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) for Massachusetts, is pleased to announce that Margaret Johnson, MSM, RN, CPHQ, Senior Director of Quality Improvement Services will participate in the Institute for Healthcare Improvement's (IHI) Improvement Advisor Professional Development program, currently scheduled to begin in January 2007. Ms. Johnson is one of 20 healthcare improvement professionals' who will participate in this intensive nine-month program.

The aim of this program is to develop healthcare improvement advisors to effectively facilitate improvement strategies for their organization. Program curriculum is centered on the theoretical framework of W.E. Deming's Profound Knowledge and the Model for Improvement as a roadmap for completing improvement initiatives.

Program participants will be asked to identify one or more specific improvement projects that they oversee, with an aim of improving the expertise and skills in participants' work environment.

As Senior Director of Quality Improvement Services at Masspro, Ms. Johnson is responsible for managing operations in a variety of quality improvement programs. Her role includes developing, promoting, implementing, and evaluating healthcare quality improvement interventions in home health, hospital, nursing home and community settings. Ms. Johnson has extensive experience in healthcare operations including clinical operations, quality improvement, project and program development, and case management.

"We are pleased to have Margaret Johnson selected to participate in this prestigious program." said Jeffrey M. East, President and Chief Executive Officer, Masspro. "We see this as an excellent opportunity to continue to enhance the important healthcare quality improvement work that Masspro is conducting across healthcare settings."

About IHI:

The Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) is a not-for-profit organization leading the improvement of health care throughout the world. It is a reliable source of energy, knowledge, and support for a never-ending campaign to improve health care worldwide. The Institute helps accelerate change in health care by cultivating promising concepts for improving patient care and turning those ideas into action. IHI was founded in 1991 and is based in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

About Masspro:

Masspro (www.masspro.org), the Medicare Quality Improvement Organization for Massachusetts under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services develops and disseminates innovative solutions that transform patient care by improving its safety, effectiveness, and efficiency. We are unique among other organizations in our ability to work across the full continuum of patients, healthcare providers, purchasers, and payers, and are committed to transforming the care delivery system, not just its individual components. We leverage the power of information in order to provide improvement solutions that deliver maximum impact.

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This material was prepared by Masspro, the Medicare Quality Improvement Organization for Massachusetts, under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The contents presented do not necessarily represent CMS policy. 8sow-ma-corp-06-02 mjpr-oct