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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Kristine Mighion Named Managing Director and CEO of
Healthcare Consultants International, Inc., a Subsidiary of AAAHC
*Consulting Staff Increased to Enhance, Expand Services***

Skokie, Ill. [April 27, 2011] — Healthcare Consultants International, Inc. (HCI) has appointed Kristine Mighion, MD, MBA, as its Managing Director and CEO, and expanded its consulting team. HCI, a for-profit subsidiary of the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC), provides broad-based consulting expertise in a range of ambulatory health care settings. HCI's primary focus is assisting ambulatory health care organizations prepare for accreditation, licensure and certification (including Medicare), as well as provide expertise in Quality Assessment/Performance Improvement, Infection Control, Regulatory Compliance, and Customized New Facility Development.

Dr. Mighion has worked in the health care consulting arena for more than 15 years with a focus on business, strategic and market planning; new service and product development, and clinical work flow optimization. She also is creator and host of Intimetv.com's *Healthcare Executive* show, an online talk show for health care executives.

"We look forward to working with Dr. Mighion as she expands HCI's range of consulting and education services to assist ambulatory organizations in improving the quality and efficiency of their care," said John Burke, PhD, executive vice president and chief executive officer, AAAHC.

"Since joining HCI last year, I've been impressed by the dedication of ambulatory organizations in their efforts to pursue the highest quality care for their patients through accreditation and other enhancement efforts," Dr. Mighion said. "I am pleased to announce that four new consultants have joined HCI and additional consultants will be added in the future. This will enable us to expand and enhance the services we offer to these organizations."

Consultants who have joined HCI are Nancy Jo Vinson, RN, BA, CASC and Carol Hiatt, RN, LHRM, CASC, both of whom have a wide range of expertise in the development, administration and accreditation of ambulatory surgery centers (ASCs) and office-based surgery practices. Also joining HCI are doctors Hugh Norsted, DDS, and Scott Trimas, MD, FACS. All four consultants are experienced clinical practitioners and accreditation surveyors trained in continuous quality and process improvement,

Healthcare Consultants International, Inc. is a for-profit subsidiary of the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC). HCI's consultants are highly-qualified health care professionals with backgrounds in medicine, nursing, health care administration, law and other professional disciplines, and who specialize in ambulatory health care. The majority of HCI's consultants are active accreditation surveyors trained on current accreditation standards and methods of preparation for the accreditation on-site survey. HCI conducts accreditation preparation workshops around the country and is currently developing a series of online webinars to begin in summer 2011. HCI will be exhibiting at "ASCA 2011" taking place May 11-13 in Orlando. For more information on HCI's consulting and educational services, please visit www.hciconsultants.com. **Disclaimer:** HCI's consulting services are entirely separate and independent from the accreditation services of AAAHC. All accreditation decisions by AAAHC are made without regard as to whether consulting services have been provided by HCI or any other organization.

The Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC), founded in 1979, is the leader in ambulatory health care accreditation with nearly 5,000 organizations accredited nationwide. AAAHC accredits a variety of ambulatory health care organizations, including ambulatory surgery centers, office-based surgery centers, college student health centers, managed care organizations, military health care clinics, large medical and dental practices and medical homes. In 2009, AAAHC launched an international accreditation program in Costa Rica and will expand accreditation to other countries. The AAAHC serves as an advocate for the provision of high-quality health care through the development of nationally recognized standards and through its survey and accreditation programs. AAAHC accreditation is recognized as a symbol of quality by third-party payers, medical organizations, liability insurance companies, state and federal agencies and the public. For more information visit www.aaahc.org.