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NORCAL Mutual CME Courses Approved by American Academy of Family Physicians

San Francisco (April 27, 2010)—NORCAL Mutual policyholders belonging to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) can now use CME courses developed by NORCAL Mutual to meet AAFP's continuing medical education (CME) requirements. This month, AAFP approved five of the medical professional liability insurer's courses for Prescribed credit, with three more slated for approval by mid-year.

The current courses with AAFP Prescribed credit are:

- **Stroke: A Risk Management Analysis**—Addresses four liability risks associated with stroke: failure to provide preventative care; improper anticoagulation; error in performing endarterectomy or other stroke-related treatment or preventative procedures; and failure to properly diagnose and treat an evolving stroke.
- **Litigation Stress: Reactions and Risks**—Covers common impacts of litigation on a physician, including diminished quality of patient care, increased liability risk, disruption of personal life, and fears of financial, business and reputation loss. Includes strategies for the effective management of unanticipated outcomes.
- **Failure to Diagnose Malignant Melanoma**—Provides insights into liability issues, resources for diagnosing melanoma, recommendations for effective communication with patients and other providers, and risk management strategies to facilitate proper follow-up and documentation.
- **High Alert Conditions**—Provides risk management strategies for four frequently seen conditions in malpractice claims: appendicitis, meningitis, pneumonia and pulmonary embolism.
- **Diabetes Mellitus**—Identifies circumstances in patients' diabetes diagnoses and treatment that compromise good outcomes, and gives recommendations aimed at improving patient safety.

The courses were developed by the Risk Management Department of NORCAL Mutual and its wholly owned subsidiary PMSLIC. NORCAL Mutual is an accredited provider of CME materials for physicians insured by NORCAL Mutual, which serves California, Alaska and Rhode Island, and PMSLIC, which serves Pennsylvania and Delaware. The department releases

new and updated CME courses annually, as well as producing a monthly CME publication and many other risk management resources. All of the courses are already available for American Medical Association PRA Category 1 Credit.

NORCAL Mutual has submitted additional courses for AAFP's consideration and will announce them as they are approved.

AAFP is a medical specialty society that represents more than 94,600 family physicians and medical students.

NORCAL Mutual Insurance Company was formed by physicians in 1975 to provide the highest quality medical professional liability insurance products and services to its policyholder-owners. NORCAL Mutual insures nearly 20,000 physicians and other healthcare professionals in solo practice, medical groups, hospitals, clinics and allied healthcare facilities in California, Alaska and Rhode Island.