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**ALAMANCE CASWELL LME RECEIVES
URAC HEALTH UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT ACCREDITATION**

Burlington, NC – Alamance Caswell LME announced today that it has been awarded Health Utilization Management Accreditation from URAC, a Washington, DC-based health care accrediting organization that establishes quality standards for the health care industry. URAC's Health Utilization Management Accreditation standards provide assurance to patients, providers, purchasers, regulators, and employers that the practices of the organization performing these services are fair and equitable for all parties.

“The Alamance Caswell LME Board of Directors is pleased with all the hard work the staff did to help us achieve this accreditation process from URAC,” said David M. Carter, Chairman of the Alamance Caswell LME Board of Directors. “I was fortunate to be able to sit in on the exit interview, and was very pleased with the reviewers closing comments.”

“By applying for and receiving URAC Health Utilization Management Accreditation, Alamance Caswell LME has demonstrated a commitment to quality and accountability,” said Alan P. Spielman, URAC president and CEO. “Quality health care is crucial to our nation's welfare and it is important to have organizations that are willing to measure themselves against national standards and undergo rigorous evaluation by an independent accrediting body.”

URAC's Health Utilization Management standards establish consistency in the UM processes. The standards ensure that appropriately trained clinical personnel conduct and oversee the utilization review process, that a reasonable and timely appeals process is in place, and that medical decisions are based on valid clinical criteria.

URAC, an independent, nonprofit organization, is a leader in promoting health care quality through accreditation and certification programs. URAC's standards keep pace with the rapid changes in the health care system, and provide a mark of distinction for health care organizations to demonstrate their commitment to quality and accountability. Through its broad-based governance structure and an inclusive standards development process, URAC ensures that all stakeholders are represented in setting meaningful standards for the health care industry. For more information, visit www.urac.org.

For more information contact Jodi Meacham, Quality Management/Provider Relations Director at 336-513-4275.