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For Immediate Release

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**MDADVANTAGE ANNOUNCES 2015 RECIPIENTS OF PRESTIGIOUS
EXCELLENCE IN MEDICINE AWARDS**

***Researcher Estela Jacinto, PhD, of
Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Among Honorees***

Lawrenceville, NJ, March 2, 2015 – MDAdvantage Insurance Company, a leading provider of medical professional liability insurance, today announced the 2015 Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine award recipients.

The Excellence in Medicine Awards are named after Edward J. Ill, MD, a New Jersey physician who was a pioneer in promoting continuing education in ways that set the national standard. Each year, exemplary New Jersey physicians and leaders whose dedication to education, research and public service has significantly impacted the delivery of healthcare in the state and around the nation have been honored. This annual event has been sponsored by MDAdvantage Insurance Company since 2003.

Patricia A. Costante, Chairman and CEO of MDAdvantage, stated, “MDAdvantage is proud to once again sponsor the *Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Awards*®. Being able to recognize all the progress that has been made in healthcare since the awards were first bestowed in 1939 is an honor and a privilege for all of us involved. My hope is that by highlighting these advances, we are able to inspire the healthcare providers and leaders of tomorrow.”

Among those being honored this year is Estela Jacinto, PhD, Associate Professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, who will receive the Outstanding Medical Research Scientist Award for Basic Biomedical Research. The award is presented to an individual who has carried out biomedical research leading to important advances in biotechnology or to the understanding of disease processes.

Also being honored are:

- Outstanding Medical Educator Award:
Richard P. Mackessy, MD, *Orthopaedic Surgeon, Union County Orthopaedic Group and Chief of the Orthopedics Department at Trinitas Regional Medical Center*
 - Outstanding Healthcare Executive Award:
Amy B. Mansue, *President and CEO, Children’s Specialized Hospital*
 - Edward J. Ill Physician’s Award®:
Margaret C. Fisher, MD, *Medical Director of the Unterberg Children’s Hospital at Monmouth Medical Center and Professor of Pediatrics at Drexel University College of Medicine and St. George’s University School of Medicine, Grenada*
 - Outstanding Medical Research Scientist Award for Clinical Research:
M. Maral Mouradian, MD, *William Dow Lovett Professor of Neurology and Director of the Center for Neurodegenerative and Neuroimmunologic Diseases in the Department of*
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Neurology at Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences - Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

- Peter W. Rodino, Jr., Citizen's Award®:
Captain Joseph P. Costabile, MD, *General and Vascular Surgeon, Virtua Surgical Group*

Paul J. Hirsch, MD, Chairman of the Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Foundation, said, "As healthcare leaders, we have an obligation to pave the way for our future healthcare providers so that they may continue the tradition of quality healthcare delivery and innovation in our state. The Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Foundation and MDAdvantage are grateful for the support of our contributors, advertisers and, most especially, the Excellence in Medicine Scholarship Honor Roll members who step up with significant annual contributions to support the scholarship fund."

This year's awards will be presented at the *Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Awards®* ceremony on May 6, 2015, at Greenacres Country Club in Lawrenceville, New Jersey. All profits from the event will be dedicated to support seven medical and healthcare student scholarships. To order tickets, participate as a Scholarship Honor Roll member, place an ad in this year's awards journal or make a direct contribution, please contact the Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Foundation at 609-803-2350 or visit www.EJIAwards.org.

Estela Jacinto, PhD

Estela Jacinto, PhD, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology—Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. Dr. Jacinto's research has importance in understanding how nutrients control growth signals in normal and cancer cells.

Dr. Jacinto obtained her PhD in 1997 from the University of California San Diego in the laboratory of Dr. Michael Karin, where she focused her studies on signal transduction in T lymphocytes. She performed post-doctoral studies in the laboratory of Dr. Michael N. Hall at the University of Basel in Switzerland. Dr. Hall's lab pioneered the studies on the target of rapamycin (mTOR), a protein that controls cell growth and is an important target for cancer therapeutics. In Dr. Hall's lab, Dr. Jacinto discovered a rapamycin-insensitive function for mTOR.

In her own lab, Dr. Jacinto continues to characterize novel mTOR functions and identify alternative therapeutic strategies for cancer. Her studies have been published in prestigious journals, including *Cell*, *Nature Cell Biology*, *Molecular Cell* and the *EMBO Journal*. The studies published in *EMBO Journal* were cited by *Science Signaling* as one of the "Signaling Breakthroughs of 2010."

In 2011, Dr. Jacinto was awarded a Stand Up to Cancer (SU2C) Innovative Research Grant. She is one of 13 young scientists across the nation to receive \$750,000 over a three-year period for innovative studies. She has also received grants from the American Cancer Society, Cancer Research Institute, American Heart Association and the New Jersey Commission for Cancer Research. Her research is currently funded by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences and the National Cancer Institute.

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