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For Immediate Release

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**MDADVANTAGE ANNOUNCES 2017 RECIPIENTS OF PRESTIGIOUS
EXCELLENCE IN MEDICINE AWARDS**

John Sensakovic, MD, PhD, of Seton Hall University School of Health and Medical Sciences and JFK Medical Center, Among Honorees

Lawrenceville, NJ, April 4, 2017 – MDAdvantage Insurance Company, a leading provider of medical professional liability insurance, today announced the 2017 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. This annual event that dates back to 1939 has been sponsored by MDAdvantage Insurance Company since 2003.

Patricia A. Costante, Chairman and CEO of MDAdvantage, stated, “MDAdvantage is proud to 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 John W. Sensakovic, MD, PhD, who will receive the Outstanding Medical Educator Award. The award is presented to a medical educator who has made an outstanding contribution to graduate or undergraduate medical education in New Jersey. Dr. Sensakovic is an infectious disease specialist, Associate Dean for Residencies and Fellowships, Seton Hall University School of Health and Medical Sciences/Seton Hall University-Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine, and Director of Infection Control and Continuing Medical Education, JFK Medical Center.

Also being honored are:

Outstanding Healthcare Executive Award:

Alexander J. Hatala, FACHE, *President and Chief Executive Officer, Lourdes Health System*

Edward J. Ill Physician’s Award®:

Maria Soto-Greene, MD, MS-HPed, *Vice Dean and Professor of Medicine and Director, Hispanic Center of Excellence, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School*

Verice M. Mason Community Service Leader Award:

Chantal Brazeau, MD, *Professor and Interim Chair of Family Medicine and Assistant Dean for Faculty Vitality, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School*

On behalf of the Rutgers New Jersey Medical School Student Family Health Care Center



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Outstanding Scientist Award:

Larry Hirsch, MD, *Worldwide Vice President, Medical Affairs, Diabetes Care, BD*

Outstanding Scientist Award:

Nancy D. Connell, PhD, *Professor and Director of Research and Director, Center for BioDefense, Center for Emerging and Re-emerging Pathogens, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School*

Peter W. Rodino, Jr., Citizen's Award®:

Alfred F. Tallia, MD, MPH, *Professor and Chair, Department of Family Medicine and Community Health and Founding Executive Director/CEO, Robert Wood Johnson Partners, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and the RWJBarnabas Health System*

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 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 3, 2017, at Park Château Estate and Gardens in East Brunswick, New Jersey. All profits from the event will be dedicated to support seven medical and healthcare student scholarships. To reserve 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.

The awards program is sponsored by MDAdvantage Insurance Company, a leading provider of medical professional liability insurance. For more information on MDAdvantage, call 888-355-5551 or visit www.MDAdvantageonline.com.



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John W. Sensakovic, MD, PhD
Outstanding Medical Educator Award



John W. Sensakovic, MD, PhD, is an infectious disease specialist and the Director of Infection Control and Continuing Medical Education at JFK Medical Center. Additionally, he is Associate Dean for Residencies and Fellowships at Seton Hall University School of Health and Medical Sciences/Seton Hall University-Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine. Dr. Sensakovic previously served for many years as Director of Medical Education at Saint Michael's Medical Center, where he was responsible for all graduate and continuing education. Dr. Sensakovic is a past member of the New Jersey Lyme Advisory Panel and the Governor's Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS, the Governor's Medical Emergency Preparedness and Response Expert Panel and the Governor's Pandemic Advisory Group, and is a past President of the Infectious Disease Society of New Jersey. Dr. Sensakovic is the author of numerous journal articles, textbook chapters on infectious diseases and articles on physicians' training and the educational process. Dr. Sensakovic is recognized as an expert in infectious diseases and medical education and has received numerous awards and honors for his work throughout his career, including the Governor's Clara Barton Medical Service Award, the highest award bestowed by the State of New Jersey on an individual citizen.

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