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## **VHA Expands Temporary Staffing Options for Hospitals**

**ATLANTA, GA** – VHA Inc.'s 1,400 network hospitals and more than 30,000 non-acute care organizations now have five additional temporary staffing options available, due to an expanded agreement between VHA and the health care staffing consortium, Jackson Healthcare.

With the addition of five new Jackson companies, VHA member organizations now have discounted access to temporary nurses, pharmacists, pharmacy techs, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech pathologists, physician assistants, nurse practitioners and IT professionals. This agreement marks the first time VHA members have access to pharmacy and advanced practice (i.e. physician assistants and nurse practitioners) professionals.

In November 2009, two Jackson Healthcare operating companies, Jackson & Coker and LocumTenens.com, joined the VHA network to offer discounted temporary physician staffing to member organizations. The new Jackson Healthcare operating companies joining the VHA network include AdvancedPractice.com, Jackson Pharmacy Professionals, Jackson Therapy Partners, Parker HealthcareIT and Travel Nurse Solutions.

"Health care staffing is a critical component of high-quality, cost-effective and safe patient care. In addition to Jackson's established success with VHA in the physician staffing area, we look forward to building that success even further with their expertise in IT staffing, nursing, pharmacy and therapy positions," said David Gillan, vice president of Purchased Services and Strategic Sourcing. "We continue to offer exceptional value to our members by identifying industry-leading suppliers such as Jackson Healthcare who have the capability, quality and demonstrated willingness to collaborate."

"We are pleased to help VHA health care organizations better serve their patients through increased access to quality physicians, nurses, allied health and information technology professionals," said Bob Schlotman, chief marketing officer with Jackson Healthcare. "We are especially pleased to be the first to bring pharmacy and advanced practice professionals to this distinguished network."

VHA is a national health care network that helps its members establish more effective supply chain operations and improve clinical performance. Jackson Healthcare is a family of companies that provides physician and clinician staffing, anesthesia management, hospital management and healthcare information technology solutions.

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**About Jackson Healthcare**

Founded by the healthcare innovator Richard Jackson, Jackson Healthcare serves more than two million patients in nearly one thousand hospitals each year. The Jackson family of companies provides physician and clinician staffing, anesthesia management, hospital management and healthcare information technology solutions proven to improve clinical and financial outcomes, as well as increase operational efficiency. Jackson Healthcare has earned national media coverage for its physician polls and champions local and international charitable work. In addition, Jackson has been recognized as one of the largest and fastest growing staffing companies in the country by the *Inc. Magazine*, *Atlanta Business Chronicle*, *Georgia Trend* and *Staffing Industry Analysts*. For more information about Jackson and its companies, visit [JacksonHealthcare.com](http://JacksonHealthcare.com).

**About VHA** VHA Inc., based in Irving, Texas, is a national network of not-for-profit health care organizations that work together to drive maximum savings in the supply chain arena, set new levels of clinical performance and identify and implement best practices to improve operational efficiency and clinical outcomes. Formed in 1977, through its 17 regional offices, VHA serves 1,400 hospitals and more than 30,000 non-acute care providers nationwide. VHA was ranked by Modern Healthcare as the 7th best place to work in health care in 2009.