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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CALOPTIMA HEALTH APPOINTS THREE NEW MEDICAL DIRECTORS

Leaders' areas of expertise include senior health, neurosurgery and transgender health

ORANGE, Calif. (February 1, 2023) — To continuously strengthen the quality of care, CalOptima Health appointed in January three new medical directors who bring a broad range of medical management expertise to benefit the agency's nearly 945,000 members.

"I am pleased to welcome these outstanding physicians to CalOptima Health. Collectively they bring nearly 75 years of hands-on health care experience and leadership that will be an asset to our agency and our community of vulnerable members," said Richard Pitts, D.O., Ph.D., Chief Medical Officer

Donna Frisch, M.D., is the new Medical Director at CalOptima Health's Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) in Garden Grove. She will provide clinical leadership for PACE, supervise clinical staff, and work to develop, implement and update policies focused on providing quality care. Dr. Frisch has more than 25 years of experience as an internal medicine physician and received her medical degree from UC Irvine.

Said Elshihabi, M.D., will lead the development of CalOptima Health's value-based neurosurgery and spine program. He is a board-certified neurosurgeon with 22 years of health care experience and expertise in performing interventional spine procedures and managing spinal disorders, brain tumors and cranial trauma. He received his medical degree from the University of Texas Health Science Center before completing his internship and residency at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

Tanu Shweta Pandey, M.D., MPH, will provide medical leadership with a focus on transgender health, appeals and grievances, and quality. She is board certified in internal and preventive medicine with more than 25 years of experience in clinical practice and executive management. She received her medical degree from the Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences in India and her Master of Public Health from the University of Illinois.

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About CalOptima Health

A county-organized health system, CalOptima Health provides publicly funded health care coverage for low-income children, adults, seniors, and people with disabilities in Orange County, California. CalOptima Health's mission is to serve member health with excellence and dignity, respecting the value and needs of each person. CalOptima Health serves nearly 945,000 members with a network of more than 10,700 primary care doctors and specialists and 44 acute and rehab hospitals.