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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 9, 2023

**NORTHEAST GEORGIA HEALTH SYSTEM ENTERS PARTNERSHIP
TO IMPROVE DIALYSIS EXPERIENCE AND OUTCOMES**

GAINESVILLE, Ga. – Northeast Georgia Health System (NGHS) patients will soon benefit from a unique partnership to provide dialysis treatment in a way that may reduce infections and improve recovery time.

Northeast Georgia Health Ventures (NGHV), a group within NGHS that’s looking for new strategic partnerships, recently reached an agreement with Dialyze Direct, the nation’s leading provider of home dialysis services.

“Dialyze Direct’s exceptional care model and innovative approach to dialysis bring a level of excellence that aligns with NGHS’ mission of improving the health of our community in all we do,” said Stuart Bracken, managing director of NGHV. “We are proud to partner with them and look forward to raising the level of care for dialysis patients across the state.”

Patients living in NGHS’ long-term care centers are currently transported to the hospital or other location for their dialysis treatment, which is taxing on their bodies and increases the cost of care. Through this partnership, patients at those long-term care centers – as well as all five Northeast Georgia Medical Center hospitals in Gainesville, Braselton, Barrow County, Lumpkin County and Habersham County – will be able to receive care at those locations.

“Our patients have experienced decreased mortality, fewer re-hospitalizations, reduced infections, faster recovery time, increased participation in rehabilitation, less travel to outpatient centers and improved patient comfort,” said Henry Kauftheil, CEO and co-founder of Dialyze

Direct. “We are excited to partner with NGHS to bring our onsite services to Georgia and improve patients’ quality of life.”

Dialyze Direct currently offers onsite dialysis services in more than 170 skilled nursing facilities across 13 other states.

Learn more about NGHS, its hospitals and long-term care centers at nghs.com.

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ABOUT NORTHEAST GEORGIA HEALTH SYSTEM

Northeast Georgia Health System (NGHS) is a non-profit on a mission of improving the health of our community in all we do. Our team cares for more than 1 million people across the region through five hospitals and a variety of outpatient locations. Northeast Georgia Medical Center (NGMC) has campuses in Gainesville, Braselton, Winder, Dahlonega and Demorest – with a total of more than 850 beds and more than 1,300 medical staff members representing more than 60 specialties. Learn more at nghs.com.

ABOUT NORTHEAST GEORGIA HEALTH VENTURES

Northeast Georgia Health Ventures (NGHV) is a partnership between Northeast Georgia Health System and Prinnovo, LLC. Prinnovo specializes in working with independent, mid-sized health systems to establish, staff and manage their own health venture office. Learn more at nghventures.com.

ABOUT DIALYZE DIRECT

Dialyze Direct is a leading kidney care company that develops and deploys breakthrough solutions for patients suffering from kidney disease. With a mission to build the next generation of kidney care, Dialyze Direct leverages its leading nephrology specialists to develop new methods and technology to evolve treatment options and enhance outcomes for patients and partners. Dialyze Direct pioneered significant changes to the existing treatment model for dialysis patients in skilled nursing facilities (SNFs), where many of the most medically challenging subsets of dialysis patients reside. The company has grown to become the nation’s largest provider of home dialysis in the SNF setting. Dialyze Direct’s innovative staff-assisted home hemodialysis treatment model entails a gentler, more personalized treatment plan comprised of meticulously crafted protocols designed to tackle the unique fluid management challenges of geriatric dialysis patients. The result is increased overall patient health and reduced hospitalizations – all while substantially decreasing costs for payers. Dialyze Direct currently operates in 13 states, with new operations launching soon in additional states. Visit www.dialyzedirect.com to learn more.