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Contact: Eric Anderson, Vice President of Marketing & Communications, PIAA
301.947.9000, ext. 1212 or eanderson@piaa.us

PIAA Data Reconfirms Breast, Lung, and Colorectal Cancers among Top Conditions Named in Diagnostic Error Medical Liability Claims

*MPL/HPL Insurers Discuss Diagnosis and Related Issues at International Conference*

Rockville, MD (November 7, 2016) – PIAA, the leading association representing the medical and healthcare professional liability (MPL/HPL) insurance community, today reported that data from the PIAA Data Sharing Project (DSP) indicates that breast, lung, and colorectal cancers remain among the leading conditions associated with diagnostic error medical professional liability claims.

“According to our data, cancers continue to be the top condition associated with diagnostic error claims, followed by acute MI and pulmonary embolism,” stated P. Divya Parikh, Vice President of Research and Risk Management, PIAA. “All of these diagnoses span multiple medical specialties.”

“Diagnostic error is a very common allegation in MPL claims,” Parikh continued. “PIAA members are addressing diagnostic challenges in many ways, and we hope this information can assist them and other interested parties in their work to improve the accuracy of diagnosis.”

Parikh, along with other PIAA members, spoke at the Diagnostic Error in Medicine 9th International Conference in Hollywood, California.

“We are excited to meet with leaders from across the healthcare spectrum to discuss MPL/HPL insurers’ perspectives on how to improve diagnosis and patient outcomes,” Parikh said. “Advancing patient safety is a foundational principle of PIAA members, and we think there is great value in sharing information on the strategies and programs these organizations have developed to address diagnostic error.”

Parikh led a panel discussion that included Alan Lembitz, MD, COPIC; David B. Troxel, MD, The Doctors Company; Gord Wallace, MD, The Canadian Medical Protective Association; Dana Welle, DO, The Risk Authority Stanford; and Anne Whitehead, Cooperative of American Physicians, Inc.

The Diagnostic Error in Medicine 9th International Conference was sponsored by the Society to Improve Diagnosis in Medicine.

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PIAA is the leading international association representing medical professional liability insurance companies, risk retention groups, captives, trusts, and other entities with a commitment to the quality delivery of healthcare. PIAA members insure more than 2 million healthcare professionals around the world—doctors, dentists, nurses and nurse practitioners, and other healthcare providers—including more than two-thirds of America’s private practicing physicians. PIAA members also insure more than 3,000 hospitals and 10,000 medical facilities.