



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**CONTACT:** GBS Sales & Marketing, (410) 832-1300  
e-mail: sales@gbsio.net

**GROUP BENEFIT SERVICES, INC.  
RECEIVES URAC CASE MANAGEMENT ACCREDITATION AND  
URAC HEALTH UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT REACCREDITATION**

**Hunt Valley, MD** – Group Benefit Services, Inc., (GBS), the premier administrator of employee benefit plans, announced that it has been awarded URAC Case Management Accreditation. In addition GBS received URAC Health Utilization Management Reaccreditation. URAC, the Utilization Review Accreditation Commission, is a Washington, DC-based health care accrediting organization that establishes quality standards for the health care industry. URAC’s Case Management (CM) Accreditation standards provide a solid foundation for effective case management programs. URAC’s Health Utilization Management (HUM) Accreditation standards provide assurance to patients, providers, purchasers, regulators and employers that the practices of the organization performing these services are fair and equitable for all parties.

“By receiving URAC’s CM Accreditation, we have demonstrated a commitment to better meet patients’ needs and improve their treatment outcomes by coordinating the full continuum of care,” said Kathy Simmons, CEO of Group Benefit Services, Inc.

The URAC accreditation process demonstrates a commitment to quality services and serves as a framework to improve business processes through benchmarking organizations against nationally recognized standards. The URAC CM Accreditation standards help ensure that organization’s care management offerings are of the highest quality. The standards enable organizations to successfully train case managers, identify individuals for case management, manage and conduct care management activities in an efficient and professional manner, promote the autonomy of consumer and family decision making, maintain confidentiality and delegate responsibility.

The URAC HUM Accreditation standards establish consistency in HUM processes. The standards ensure that appropriately trained clinical personnel conduct and oversee the utilization review process, that a reasonable and timely appeals process is in place, and that medical decisions are based on valid criteria. The Reaccreditation process confirms that a company has met and remained in compliance with the applicable standards throughout the accreditation cycle.

“GBS should be commended for meeting strict quality standards,” said Alan P. Spielman, URAC president and CEO. “It is critically important for health care organizations to make a commitment to quality and accountability. URAC accreditation is a demonstration of that commitment.”

URAC, an independent, nonprofit organization, is a leader in promoting health care quality through accreditation and certification programs. URAC’s standards keep pace with the rapid changes in the health care system, and provide a mark of distinction for health care organizations to demonstrate their commitment to quality and accountability. Through its broad-based governance structure and an inclusive standards development process, URAC ensures that all stakeholders are represented in establishing meaningful quality measures for the entire health care industry. For more information, visit [www.urac.org](http://www.urac.org).



**ABOUT GROUP BENEFIT SERVICES, INC.**

Headquartered in Hunt Valley, MD, GBS is a pioneer of innovative solutions in the industry. The company's 28-year history of success has been built on flexibility and creativity. GBS continues to develop new cost-containment strategies through unique benefit plan designs, advanced technology and superior reporting capabilities.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Visit Group Benefit Services, Inc. online at [www.gbsio.net](http://www.gbsio.net).

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