

ASCENTIST PHYSICIANS GROUP AND HEAD AND NECK SURGICAL ASSOCIATES ANNOUNCE MERGER

For Immediate Release

Lee's Summit, Missouri – Ascentist Management LLC and Ascentist Physicians Group LLC (Ascentist) announced today that it had reached agreement to merge with Head and Neck Surgical Associates of Overland Park, Kansas.

The transaction, effective January 1, 2019, will further expand Ascentist's position as the largest physician owned otolaryngology (ear, nose and throat) practice in the Kansas City region. Head and Neck Surgical Associates will become a division of Ascentist and continue to practice under its current name and from its current locations on the campuses of Menorah Medical Center and Research Medical Center.

Dr. David Rudman, President of Head and Neck Surgical Associates, said, "We look forward to partnering with the Ascentist Group. We expect great synergy between these two longstanding practices. This merger will provide the best ENT care for patients in the region."

Combined with the other division of Ascentist, ENT Associates of Greater Kansas City, Ascentist will serve 12 local hospitals and four rural hospitals from 12 locations in the Kansas City Region. The combined practice will have over 100 employees, 17 otolaryngology (ENT) physicians and 15 professionally licensed audiologists serving over 45,000 patient encounters per year

Dr. Douglas Cowan, CEO of the Ascentist Group said "We're extremely excited to have Head and Neck Surgical Associates join the Ascentist team. This merger allows us to further our mission of providing the highest quality healthcare while reducing overall healthcare costs."

About Head and Neck Surgical Associates

Head and Neck Surgical Associates was founded in 1955 and has served patients in the Kansas City region for more than 63 years.. Physicians Dr. David Rudman, Dr. Mark Maslan, Dr. Thomas Eyn, and Dr. Brad Seaman. will be joining Ascentist Physicians Group when the merger becomes effective January 1, 2019.

About the Ascentist Group

Ascentist Physicians Group LLC, doing business as ENT Associates of Greater Kansas City, is the largest physician led ENT practice in the Kansas City area. In 2018, ENT Associates of Greater Kansas City PC restructured its organization creating the Ascentist Group . This is the second corporate merger for the group. In 2015, the group purchased Professional Hearing Center, a local audiology practice owned by Dr. Kelly Spiller.

Ascentist Physicians Group LLC and Ascentist Management LLC are not affiliated with Adventist Health System or AdventHealth.

For more information, please contact Ronald G. Booth, President, Ascentist Management LLC (www.entofgkc.com)

=====