For Immediate Release

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ACUTE Center for Eating Disorders' Dr. Jennifer L. Gaudiani Announces Plan for Transition

February 18, 2016 (Denver, CO) –Jennifer L. Gaudiani, MD, CEDS, has announced plans to transition from her role as Medical Director of ACUTE Center for Eating Disorders at Denver Health to open a private concierge medical practice for patients with eating disorders in Denver. Dr. Gaudiani will stay on as Medical Director of ACUTE until May 15 to allow time to appoint an interim medical director and ensure a smooth transition.

"It has been an honor to be part of the ACUTE team of professionals," Dr. Gaudiani said. "Each member of the ACUTE team is extremely passionate about the work that they do here. I look forward to continued collaboration with ACUTE as I move on with my new venture."

Dr. Gaudiani has been with ACUTE since its inception in 2009, and is highly regarded by past and present patients, her colleagues, and senior leaders within ACUTE and Denver Health.

"Dr. Gaudiani's leadership and hands-on approach has helped to shape ACUTE into a National Center of Excellence for medical stabilization of patients suffering from severe eating disorders. She will truly be missed here, but we are proud of the reputable program and capable team she has helped to build," said ACUTE's founder and Executive Medical Director Philip S. Mehler, MD, FACP, FAED, CEDS.

Dr. Gaudiani, known as "Dr. G" to her staff and patients, is one of only two internal medicine physicians in the country to hold the Certified Eating Disorders Specialist (CEDS) designation. Dr. Gaudiani and her large multi-disciplinary team provide medical care to hospitalized patients and she helps to oversee the clinical, strategic, and administrative management of ACUTE.

"Dr. Gaudiani is an excellent physician and will be missed greatly. Moving forward we are fortunate to have the continued leadership of Dr. Philip Mehler," said Dr. Art Gonzalez, Denver Health's chief executive officer. "Dr. Mehler is the world's leading expert in the medical complications of eating disorders and together we will work to recruit a high profile physician from the industry to take over the medical director role, and continue to grow this one-of-a-kind program."

Since its opening in 2009, the ACUTE Center for Eating Disorders has become a trusted resource and remains the country's only specialized medical stabilization program for adults with severe eating disorders. Patients travel to ACUTE from across the United States, often by urgent air-ambulance, to receive the highly specialized care for which ACUTE has become famous.

Dr. Gaudiani will open her private concierge medical practice in Denver. The Gaudiani Clinic will provide expert outpatient medical care to patients suffering from eating disorders. "ACUTE has been fortunate

to have Dr. Gaudiani as a member of our team," said Dr. Mehler, "and we look forward to an ongoing professional relationship with her and her new practice."

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The <u>ACUTE Center for Eating Disorders at Denver Health</u> offers comprehensive stabilization and expert care for the most medically compromised eating disorder patients. Patients are offered the best in medical treatment, a compassionate and experienced nursing staff, individual psychotherapy and comprehensive discharge planning to help them on their path to recovery. The ACUTE Center is tailored to help both men and women who cannot seek care in a traditional inpatient or residential treatment setting due to the severity of their weight loss or other medical complications.

<u>Denver Health</u> is the Rocky Mountain Region's Level I academic trauma center, and the safety net hospital for the Denver area. The Denver Health system, which integrates acute and emergency care with public and community health, includes the Rocky Mountain Regional Trauma Center, Denver's 911 emergency medical response system, Denver Health Paramedic Division, eight family health centers, 18 school-based health centers, the Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center, NurseLine, Denver CARES, Denver Public Health, and the Rocky Mountain Center for Medical Response to Terrorism, Mass Casualties and Epidemics.