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College of Medicine's Dr. Petrak Selected to Join Ray Helfer Society

PEORIA – (July 14, 2015) Dr. Channing Petrak was selected as a member of the Ray E. Helfer Society, an honorary society of physicians who seek to provide leadership to enhance the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of child abuse and neglect.

Dr. Petrak, Medical Director for the Pediatric Resource Center since 2011, is Board Certified in General Pediatrics and is also among a small group doctors in the U.S. who are board certified in Child Abuse Pediatrics. Dr. Petrak serves on the Child Death Review Team Peoria Region and Children's Justice Task Force Illinois.

The Ray E. Helfer Society, founded in 1999 and named in honor of Dr. Ray E. Helfer, is the primary sub-specialty society for physicians devoted to the problem of maltreated children.

Dr. Petrak received her medical degree from Southern Illinois University School of Medicine and completed her pediatric residency at UICOMP in May 2003, and began working for the Pediatric Resource Center. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in economics and Masters of Business Administration.

About the Pediatric Resource Center

The Pediatric Resource Center (PRC) is a community service program of the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria. The PRC provides direct services to suspected child victims of physical abuse, sexual abuse, and neglect in a child-friendly manner and setting. Medical and social service staff also provide adjunct services to parents, guardians and caretakers. Additionally, they work in collaboration with the many agencies and systems that are involved in a child abuse case. The PRC is affiliated with the Children's Hospital of Illinois at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center and is located on the hospital's campus.

About The University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria

The University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria is one of four campuses that make up the largest public medical school in the country. Located in Downtown Peoria, UICOMP enhances the central Illinois region by educating more than 150 medical students and more than 270 residents and fellows; performing the latest in research; attracting new physicians; and treating thousands of patients each year. To learn more about UICOMP, visit us online at peoria.medicine.uic.edu.

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