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PRESS RELEASE

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SURVEY REVEALS STAFFING SHORTAGES AND DRUG COSTS WORRY HEALTHCARE EXECUTIVES MOST

A new survey of healthcare executives reveals that staffing shortages and rising prescription drug costs are the top challenges members of the C-Suite believe they'll be grappling with in 2017.

As part of its semiannual report, Premier Inc.'s *The Economic Outlook* surveyed 52 executives from across the U.S. on the biggest issues facing their organizations and supply chains as a whole. After years of naming health reform as having the biggest impact on their ability to deliver care, 42 percent of healthcare execs now say the lack of staff is a bigger concern.

The survey revealed that 72 percent believed the supply of primary care physicians is inadequate to meet their needs over the next three years. And slightly more than half say they don't have enough have enough healthcare extenders, such as nurse practitioners and physician assistants.

Drug costs and shortages are also a major worry. More than 90 percent of executives surveyed said price increases for pharmaceuticals and drug shortages are significant challenges for their organizations. In other survey highlights:

- Ninety-five percent report operational and cultural issues around mergers and acquisitions.
- Sixty percent report an increase in their capital budgets compared with the previous year.
- Seventy percent say that IT is a key area for capital improvement.

Privately owned since its founding in 1983 as a real estate investment banker specializing in commercial real estate properties, Cambridge today has three distinctive business units: FHA-insured HUD loans, conventional financing, and investments and acquisitions. The company is one of the nation's leading senior housing and healthcare debt and equity capital providers, with more than 400 closed senior housing transactions totaling more than \$4.5 billion since the early 1990's, when the firm began its specialization in providing senior housing capital.

Cambridge has consistently ranked among the country's top five FHA-insured HUD lenders (now HUD Lean) over the last 15 years and offers an array of conventional lending options, including permanent construction and interim loans on either a floating or variable rate basis. The company's principal investment strategy includes direct property acquisitions, joint ventures and sale/leasebacks. The company has acquired 16 facilities totaling approximately \$60 million.

Cambridge is the creator of *The Signature Experience*[™], a four-step process designed to transform the traditional lender/borrower relationship and identify "ideal" capital solutions for worthy projects. The company has a national origination office in Los Angeles, and numerous correspondent and brokerage relationships nationwide.

Cambridge publishes the bi-monthly Capital Wisdom(R) electronic newsletter, which delivers company news and feature stories via e-mail to corporate friends and clients as well as monthly updates of other relevant news and breaking trends. Additional information is available on the Cambridge website, www.cambridgecap.com, and Cambridge can be reached at (312) 357-1601 or via e-mail to info@cambridgecap.com. The firm also has embraced social media and networking via Twitter at http://www.facebook.com/cambridgecap, via blog at www.cambridgecap, via Linkedin at http://www.linkedin.com/companies/454232, where information on the firm and its employees can be found.

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