International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine joins CARF International’s IAC

Membership strengthens global input in standards development process

August 28, 2018, Tucson, Arizona — The International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (ISPRM) has accepted a seat on CARF’s International Advisory Council (IAC). ISPRM is the first IAC member based outside of North America.
ISPRM is the preeminent global association for physical and rehabilitation medicine. It is a nongovernmental organization with a formal relationship to the World Health Organization (WHO). WHO’s system of formal relations with nongovernmental organizations, as outlined by its Constitution, allows for influential organizations to provide consultation and cooperation on international health work.

ISPRM’s addition to CARF’s IAC deepens the existing relationship between the two organizations. ISPRM has served an integral role in CARF’s global growth and activities, while CARF has served as a presenter, exhibitor, and committee member at ISPRM World Congresses for a number of years.

“We are excited to bring in this robust, leading international group to assist with standard development and revision and CARF’s activities around the world,” says Chris MacDonell, CARF International’s managing director of international aging services and medical rehabilitation. “ISPRM is a key group of physical and rehabilitation medicine physicians at hospitals, clinics, and other rehab programs around the world. These are the decision makers who hold leadership roles in many countries both in and outside North America.”

Sam Wu, ISPRM's Treasurer, will serve as liaison to the IAC. In a statement, Wu writes, “CARF’s role in advancing quality service through its standards and accreditation is highly aligned with ISPRM’s commitment to continuously improve Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (PRM) practice and facilitate PRM input in international health organizations with the goal to contribute to optimal functioning and quality of life of people experiencing disability.” Wu’s full statement can be viewed here.

CARF's IAC comprises organizational and individual members representing the spectrum of CARF’s accreditation services. Members provide guidance on the development of CARF standards and input on issues affecting fields in which CARF offers accreditation. The addition of ISPRM to the IAC increases the total member count to 45 organizational and 5 individual members. A list of IAC members can be found at www.carf.org/IAC.

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About CARF International

Founded in 1966 as the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, CARF International is an independent, nonprofit accredits of health and human service providers in the areas of aging services; behavioral health; child and youth services; durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics, and supplies; employment and community services; medical rehabilitation; and opioid treatment programs. The CARF International group of organizations includes CARF, CARF Canada,
and CARF Europe and accredits more than 50,000 programs on five continents. More than 10 million persons of all ages are served annually by CARF-accredited providers.

For more information about the accreditation process, please visit the CARF International website at www.carf.org.

CARF International headquarters is located at 6951 East Southpoint Road, Tucson, AZ 85756-9407, toll free (888) 281-6531. CARF has offices in Washington, D.C.; Edmonton, Alberta; and London, U.K.