



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Care Coordination Saves Member's Sight** Care Coordination Works!

MINNEAPOLIS, July 14, 2008 – AXIS Healthcare Member Tom's sight was saved after successful preventive care coordination and implementation by AXIS Healthcare.

Tom has diabetes, peripheral vascular disease and suffered a stroke in 2006. The stroke has made it difficult for him to communicate with others and to express any medical symptoms or sight problems. When Tom joined AXIS Healthcare in early 2008, their **Diabetes & Eye Disease Disability Care Coordination Interventions** program coordinated a preventive eye exam that discovered bleeding which could have cost him his sight.

The eye-physician was notified of Tom's medical conditions and high risk of eye disease. During the examination, bleeding was discovered in Tom's eyes requiring a specialist in retinal surgery to stop the bleeding through cauterizing the affected areas. Thanks to their diligence and action, this AXIS Healthcare member will continue to see and have his sight monitored on a regular basis. Tom's **Core Team** of AXIS employees will continue to monitor his sight and other health related concerns.

In addition to major medical issues, AXIS Healthcare focuses on preventive medical care to ensure minor medical ailments don't become chronic problems. Their **Diabetes & Eye Disease Disability Care Coordination Interventions** include:

- Informing members of the risk of eye disease as a complication to diabetes.
- Facilitating and scheduling annual eye appointments for a dilated eye exam.
- Assuring that members know vision-threatening symptoms and that they need to be reported to AXIS Healthcare immediately.
- Educating members about all aspects of diabetes management as they too can affect eye-health.

- Informing members with low vision about resources and support available for the visually impaired.

### **About AXIS Healthcare**

AXIS Healthcare is a disability care coordination organization founded in 1997 by Courage Center and Sister Kenny Rehabilitation Institute as an innovative model of care for people with disabilities. AXIS staff have extensive experience working with people with physical disabilities and use this expertise, and community relationships, to ensure that members get the right care, at the right time, in the right place. More information about AXIS Healthcare and the services available to individuals with disabilities can be found at [www.axishealth.com](http://www.axishealth.com) or by calling 651-556-9342.

*\*Tom is a pseudonym and not the member's real name.*