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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****NCPDP Announces Aneesh Chopra, Health IT Thought Leader and Former U.S. Chief Technology Officer, as NCPDP 2018 Annual Conference Keynote**

Presentation to headline Passing of the Gavel Luncheon

SCOTTSDALE, AZ – April 3, 2018 – [NCPDP](#) announced today that visionary thought leader, Aneesh Chopra, will keynote NCPDP's [2018 Annual Technology & Business Conference](#), *Industry United to Improve the Patient Journey*, May 7-9, 2018, at the Westin Kierland Resort & Spa in Scottsdale, Arizona. As the first Chief Technology Officer of the United States (2009-2012), Chopra worked to build improved collaboration between the public and private sectors to align payment reform with advances in healthcare information technology.

"I'm honored to join NCPDP's annual conference as this year's theme - uniting the industry to improve the patient journey - is exactly what we need," stated Aneesh Chopra. "NCPDP's long-standing history bringing all stakeholders together to advance standards-based interoperability will be put to work in this emerging era of consumer-directed exchange and new care models rewarded for such improvement."

Chopra's keynote address, "Open Data, IT, and Value-Based Payment: The (Bipartisan) Approach to Healthcare Delivery Reform," will take place Wednesday, May 9, 2018, at the Passing of the Gavel Luncheon. In his presentation, Chopra will:

- Review recent efforts to open up data across electronic health records, payers, and the government to foster a growing ecosystem of tech-enabled services that are tackling waste and boosting care quality.
- Explain how these efforts have helped consumers take a more active role in navigating the healthcare delivery system and making better decisions at each step of their care journey.
- Offer healthcare organizations a pragmatic path to building the necessary foundation for organizing, enriching, and securely sharing patient health data, including taking full advantage of the emerging "health internet."
- Identify the efforts worth advancing even in this period of policy uncertainty.

Lee Ann Stember, President and CEO of NCPDP said, "Our vision of leading the industry in healthcare standards and solutions for the common good takes center stage at this year's conference, *Industry United to Improve the Patient Journey*. We are taking bold steps forward to ensure that we keep innovating through standards, and leading impactful change that puts actionable data in the hands of providers and automates administrative transactions to keep the focus on improving the patient journey."

Stember continued, "Aneesh's keynote address will complement our programming goals for this important conference and demonstrate that the power of industry collaboration for the common good is the catalyst for meaningful and lasting change. We invite all industry stakeholders to join us as we kick off our next 40 years of innovation and transformative change in healthcare."

To register for NCPDP's 2018 Annual Technology & Business Conference, *Industry United to Improve the Patient Journey*, visit <http://ncdpd.org/ac/index.aspx>. Follow us at <http://twitter.com/ncdpd> or join the discussion using NCPDP's 2018 Annual Technology & Business Conference hashtag: #NCPDP18.

About NCPDP

Founded in 1977, NCPDP is a not-for-profit, ANSI-accredited, Standards Development Organization with approximately 1,500 members representing virtually every sector of the pharmacy services industry. Our diverse membership provides leadership and healthcare business solutions through education and standards, created using the consensus building process. NCPDP has been named in federal legislation, including HIPAA, MMA, and HITECH. NCPDP members have created standards such as the Telecommunication Standard and Batch Standard, the SCRIPT Standard for ePrescribing, the Manufacturers Rebate Standard and more to improve communication within the pharmacy industry. Our data products include dataQ[®], a robust database of information on more than 80,000 pharmacies, resQ[™], an industry pharmacy credentialing resource, and HCidea[®], an innovative prescriber database that provides continually updated information on more than 2.5 million prescribers. NCPDP's RxReconn[®] is a legislative tracking product for real-time monitoring of pharmacy-related state and national legislative and regulatory activity. For more information about NCPDP Standards, Data Services, Products, Educational Programs and Work Group meetings, go online at <http://www.ncpdp.org> or call 480.477.1000.

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