

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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# **NCPDP WELCOMES NEW CHAIR**

***Stephen C. Mullenix, R.Ph., Named 2003 Chair at Annual Conference***

**SCOTTSDALE, AZ** - The National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP), introduced Stephen C. Mullenix, R.Ph., of Medicap Pharmacies, Inc., as the new Chair for this ANSI-accredited Standards Development Organization during the Annual Conference.

Mullenix, Vice President of Professional and Industry Relations for Medicap Pharmacies, Inc., assumed the position of Chair during the "Passing of the Gavel" ceremony at the Annual Conference, held in Phoenix, Arizona in early March. He was bestowed the gavel of leadership from outgoing Chair, John Lavin, MBA, MPH, Assistant Vice President of Network Management for the Pharmacy Benefit Management company AdvancePCS.

"Steve has been such a vital contributor to our organization over the years," NCPDP President, Lee Ann Stember said. "His leadership will assist us to address the future needs of the pharmacy industry in terms of standards development and as an educational resource."

A member of NCPDP since 1992, Mullenix has served on the Board of Trustees, Annual Conference Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, Executive Committee, Awards Committee, Finance Committee and as the Chair of the Nominating Committee. He also served as a Standardization Co-Chair, a pivotal component of the NCPDP standards development process.

In his address to the NCPDP membership, Mullenix said, "The uniqueness of NCPDP is readily apparent due primarily to its diverse membership and to the methods set forth in achieving its goals as an ANSI-accredited Standards Development Organization." He emphasized the importance of compromise in the consensus building process and expressed excitement about the growth potential for the organization.

Mullenix joined Medicap in 1993 as the Vice President of Managed Care and Professional Services. He also served as Executive Vice President of Q-A, Inc. and as Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for the Iowa Pharmacists Association (IPA). He is also an active participant in numerous state and national pharmacy organizations including the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy (AMCP), the

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American Pharmaceutical Association (APhA), the National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS) and the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA).

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**ABOUT NCPDP**

Founded in 1977, NCPDP is a not-for-profit, ANSI-accredited, Standards Development Organization (SDO). With over 1350 members representing virtually every sector of the pharmacy services industry, NCPDP has made great strides over the last 25 years. NCPDP has established HCIdesa, a new company that will create a health care identifier for individual health care prescribers. The NCPDP Provider Identification Number provides over 69,000 pharmacies with a unique identifying number for interactions with federal agencies and third party processors. NCPDP has 11 active Work Groups dedicated to the technological advancement of pharmacy through standards development. NCPDP's Telecommunication Standard Version 5.1 and Batch Standard Version 1.1 were named the official standards for pharmacy claims in the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act's Final Rule. For more information about NCPDP Standards, Educational Programs and NCPDP Work Group meetings, visit the NCPDP web site at [www.ncpdp.org](http://www.ncpdp.org).

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