

NEWS RELEASE

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NCPDP EDUCATIONAL SUMMIT TO FOCUS ON PAY FOR PERFORMANCE INITIATIVES

Scottsdale, AZ – The National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP) will hold an accredited Educational Summit titled, ***“Pay for Performance: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow.”*** The program will be held at the Renaissance Waverly Hotel in Atlanta, GA, on Tuesday, February 20, 2007.

This program will explore the past, present and future of Pay for Performance (P4P) initiatives. We will look at the history of P4P programs, including trends, methods of measurements, and examples of implementation. We'll review current activity and try to anticipate what is needed for successful implementation and acceptance. This Summit will examine the issues related to P4P from a number of perspectives - the patient, the provider, the pharmacy and the payer.

The program Moderator will be consultant **Gregory S. Kaupp**, JD, MPA, MLT. He has over 20 years of experience in the evolution and development of the pharmacy benefit management industry. Kaupp began his professional career as a legislative staff assistant on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. where his final position was with the House Budget Committee staff. During his time as a lobbyist, Greg pursued and graduated with a Master's of Law in Taxation degree from Georgetown University Law School.

Susan Cooper, R.Ph., MPH, of HealthPartners, will provide a health plan perspective. Cooper is Director of Pharmacy for HealthPartners, a 700,000 member managed care organization in Bloomington, Minnesota. She is responsible for formulary management, clinical pharmacy services, pharmacy benefit management and the integration of pharmacy services in health and disease management programs. Susan is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin College of Pharmacy and has a Master's degree in Public Health and Pharmacy Administration from the University of Minnesota.

Earl Steinberg, MD, MPP, President and CEO of Resolution Health, Inc., will provide a perspective reflecting physician performance metrics. Dr. Steinberg is a nationally recognized expert in medical practice evaluation, quality assessment and quality improvement. He currently serves on the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association's National Medical Advisory Panel and serves on the Advisory Committee for Harvard Medical School's Department of Health Policy.

Laura Cranston, R.Ph., of the Pharmacy Quality Alliance (PQA), will provide a presentation focused on pharmacy performance benchmarks. Cranston serves as the Executive Director of the PQA, established in April 2006 to improve healthcare quality and patient safety through a collaborative process in which stakeholders agree on a strategy for measuring performance at the pharmacy and pharmacist levels.

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Mike Huffer, M.S., R.Ph. will provide a pharmacy benefits management (PBM) perspective. Huffer serves as Senior Vice President, Sales and Marketing for Argus Health Systems, Inc. He also oversees clinical services at Argus. Huffer earned a BS in Pharmacy at the University of Wisconsin and an MS in Hospital Pharmacy Administration from the University of Minnesota.

David Joffe, BS Pharm, CDE, FACA, will provide a pharmacist perspective. Joffe currently sees patients in over twenty primary care and endocrinology offices, serves as President of the AADE Pump Specialty Practice Group and is Editor in Chief of the *Diabetes in Control* newsletter and website. He is also an adjunct faculty member at the University of Florida College of Pharmacy and maintains a Diabetes Residency Rotation site for pharmacy students on a year round basis.

Tom Clark, R.Ph., MHS, Director of Policy and Advocacy for the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists (ASCP), will provide the Long Term Care (LTC) perspective. He recently served on three expert panels with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to revise the State Operations Manual for nursing facilities: the Pharmacy Services Panel, the Unnecessary Drugs Panel, and the Quality Assessment and Assurance Committee Panel. Clark also serves as Co-Chairman of the LTC Sub-Committee for the Pharmacy Quality Alliance (PQA).

Douglas Emery, MS, Director of Payment Policy at eHealth Initiative, will discuss economic impact of Pay for Performance initiatives. Emery has been working in healthcare reform policy for over 14 years. He has worked extensively in both the public and private sectors as a consultant and executive.

For more information on the program, registration and venue, go online at:
www.ncpdp.org/frame_meetings_ep.htm.

All Summit attendees are invited to stay for the Joint Technical Work Group Meetings, February 21-23, 2007, also at the Renaissance Waverly Hotel in Atlanta, GA.

About NCPDP

Founded in 1977, NCPDP is a not-for-profit, ANSI-accredited, Standards Development Organization with over 1500 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 and the MMA. NCPDP members have created standards such as the Telecommunication Standard and Batch Standard, the SCRIPT Standard for e-Prescribing, the Manufacturers Rebate Standard and more to improve communication within the pharmacy industry. Our data services include the NCPDP Provider Identification Number, a unique identifier of over 68,000 pharmacies and HCIda, *"The Prescriber Identity Solution"*. For more information about NCPDP Standards, Data Services, Educational Programs and Work Group meetings, go online at www.ncpdp.org.

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