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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NCPDP Announces Admiral Brett Giroir, M.D., as Opening Keynote Speaker for Its 2023 Annual Technology & Business Conference

16th HHS Assistant Secretary for Health, Dr. Giroir, Will Engage and Inspire Conference Goers in a Powerful Call to Action to Close Gaps in Healthcare.

SCOTTSDALE, AZ – January 31, 2023 – [NCPDP](#) announced today the 16th Assistant Secretary for Health in the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Dr. Brett Giroir, whose impressive, decades-long career is dedicated to improving public health, will deliver the opening keynote at [NCPDP's 2023 Annual Technology & Business Conference, "The Great Race to Close Gaps in Care."](#) The Annual Conference, which will be held May 8-10, 2023, at the Westin Kierland Resort & Spa in Scottsdale, Arizona, is expected to draw more than 700 attendees representing a broad cross-section of pharmacy and other healthcare related industry segments.

"We are thrilled to have Dr. Giroir kick off our conference and address our members who are supporting historic and transformative steps to close gaps in healthcare through standards and solutions developed at NCPDP," explained Lee Ann Stember, President & CEO of NCPDP. "Dr. Giroir will bring a different front line perspective on the COVID-19 pandemic and human vulnerability to future pandemics, with an emphasis on lessons learned and the importance of preparing for the future and closing gaps in care."

Dr. Giroir has served as the 16th Assistant Secretary for Health in the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Acting Commissioner of the United States Food & Drug Administration (FDA), and Admiral in the United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps. He also served as United States Representative to the Executive Board of the World Health Organization (WHO) within the Department of State. Notably, he was a member of the White House Coronavirus Task Force in 2020 and appeared almost daily on national media. He is also the author of a new book entitled *Memoir of a Pandemic, Fighting COVID from the Front Lines to the White House*.

A graduate of Harvard University with a degree in Biology, magna cum laude, Dr. Giroir went on to attend the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center where he earned his M.D. Next, he completed his pediatric internship, residency, and chief residency at University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. Following residency, he was a National Institutes of Health (NIH) Pediatric Scientist Training Fellow at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, and then completed a clinical fellowship in pediatric critical care medicine.

Dr. Giroir has held numerous leadership roles in government and academia, beginning with the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, where he worked his way up from assistant professor to tenured professor and holder of two endowed chairs, while also serving as Chief Medical Officer at Children's Health in Dallas. He went on to serve as Vice Chancellor for Research and Strategic Initiatives with the Texas A&M University System and Chief Executive Officer of the Texas A&M Health Science Center. His federal and state government service leadership includes membership on the Defense Sciences Research Council (DSRC), Director of the Defense Sciences Office branch of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), membership on the Board of Directors for NASA's National Space Biomedical Research Institute, and Chair of the Veterans Choice Act Blue Ribbon Panel to assess United States Veterans Health Administration, according to mandates in The Veterans Access, Choice and Accountability Act of 2014.

Throughout his storied career, Dr. Giroir has received plentiful awards and uniformed service decorations. Some of these honors include: the American Society of Nephrology Presidential Medal; the American Society of Hematology Outstanding Public Service Award; the Executive Office of the President Office of National Drug Control Policy's Director's Distinguished Service Award; U.S. Public Health Service Distinguished Service Medal with Gold Star Attachment; the Surgeon General's Medallion, the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response Pinnacle Medal, the Global Health Campaign Medal; and the Secretary of Defense Medal for Outstanding Public Service.

Currently, Dr. Giroir serves as Chief Executive Officer and a member of the Board of Directors for Altesa Biosciences, Inc., a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focusing on developing new treatments for respiratory viruses and global viral threats. This role comes on the heels of his taking up a front-line role in the COVID-19 response as Director of the White House Coronavirus Task Force and national "Testing Czar" leading testing and diagnostics.

NCPDP's national conference draws more than 700 attendees from across the healthcare industry, including technical, business, and executive representatives from health plans, pharmacy benefit managers, retail and independent pharmacies, specialty pharmacies, long-term care providers, healthcare consultants, technology vendors, pharmaceutical manufacturers, wholesale drug distributors, database management organizations and others.

The NCPDP Annual Conference is open to all healthcare industry stakeholders. To register for the conference visit <https://ncdpd.org/ac/register.aspx>.

The complimentary media registration form can be downloaded [here](#).

For real-time updates before and during the event, follow us at <http://twitter.com/ncdpd> or join the discussion using NCPDP's 2023 Annual Technology & Business Conference hashtag: #NCPDP23.

About NCPDP

The National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP) is a not-for-profit American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Accredited Standards Developer (ASD) consisting of more than 1,500 members representing entities including, but not limited to, claims processors, data management and analysis vendors, federal and state government agencies, insurers, intermediaries, pharmaceutical manufacturers, pharmacies, pharmacy benefit managers, professional services organizations, software and system vendors and other parties interested in electronic standardization within the pharmacy services sector of the healthcare industry. NCPDP provides a forum wherein our diverse membership can develop business solutions, including ANSI-accredited standards and guidance for promoting information exchanges related to medications, supplies and services within the healthcare system.

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.ncdpd.org> or call 480.477.1000.

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