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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**NCPDP RECOMMENDED BY NCVHS AS OPERATING RULES ENTITY UNDER
PATIENT PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE CARE ACT**

SCOTTSDALE, AZ – October 13, 2010 – In a recent letter to Secretary Sebelius, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the [National Committee on Vital Health Statistics \(NCVHS\)](#) recommended the [National Council for Prescription Drug Programs \(NCPDP\)](#) to be formally named as an operating rules entity for retail pharmacy-related eligibility transactions, fulfilling the criteria established in HR 3590. NCVHS also recommended CAQH CORE as the authoring entity for operating rules for non-retail pharmacy-related eligibility and claim status transactions.

NCPDP standards have been developed based on business requirements brought forward by the healthcare industry for over 30 years. NCPDP is an ANSI-accredited standards development organization which promotes openness, consensus and collaboration among healthcare and pharmacy stakeholders. In addition, NCPDP collaborates with other organizations and is an active participant in the Designated Standards Maintenance Organizations (DSMO). NCPDP standards have been named in HIPAA, MMA and Meaningful Use Requirements.

“We are pleased to be recommended by NCVHS as an operating rules entity,” stated Lee Ann Stember, President of NCPDP. “It’s powerful validation of the success of our model for collaboration and consensus and the overwhelmingly positive impact our organization has had on improving efficiencies, safety and patient care quality for over three decades.”

The NCVHS letter can be accessed at <http://www.ncvhs.hhs.gov/100930lt2.pdf>.

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 75,000 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.ncdp.org or call (480) 477-1000.

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