



NEWS RELEASE

13th August 2009

Major New Partnership to Offer Homecare Pharmacy Support Services to the NHS

Dublin, London and Franklin Lakes, New Jersey: A new partnership is announced today which will offer homecare pharmacy services to patients with chronic and complex conditions being treated by the NHS. Medco Health Solutions [UK] is a joint venture between Medco Health Solutions, Inc, one of the world's most innovative healthcare companies and United Drug plc, a leading provider of services to healthcare providers (including the NHS) and of product support for pharmaceutical manufacturers.

Medco Health Solutions [UK] aims to make a significant contribution to pharmacy homecare in the UK and offer a higher level of service to patients and the NHS, to help improve patient care and their clinical outcome. The company is to offer the NHS a comprehensive suite of services for its patients ranging from prescription drug dispensing and home delivery, to home nursing support for the administration of oral, injectable and infused agents.

Medco Health Solutions [UK] will consult in an on-going basis with a wide range of NHS stakeholders in developing and providing its services.

This is the first venture in the UK for Medco, which brings a wealth of service provider experience in delivering high quality, customised services to improve patient outcomes for a growing number of healthcare systems. These include healthcare initiatives in Sweden, Germany and the United States where over 60 million people are served by Medco, a recognised leader in the emerging field of personalised patient care. Combined with the UK experience of United Drug's healthcare professionals and its distribution expertise, the service offering of this new venture will be specifically tailored to meet the needs of the NHS.

"Medco Health Solutions [UK] is very much looking forward to working closely with the NHS, building on our parent companies' deep experience in delivering homecare services to people with long-term and complex conditions. We will tailor this expertise to help the NHS in its drive to improve the quality of individual patient experience. It's our intention to raise the bar in terms of the quality provided by homecare service providers. We believe we can help the NHS achieve better clinical outcomes and greater efficiency and will work with NHS stakeholders to make sure we do." said David Hamilton, Managing Director, Medco Health Solutions [UK].

Medco Health Solutions [UK] operations in the UK will be based in Northampton with a UK-wide services and distribution network.

-Ends-

For more information on this news release, please contact:

Beverley Evans, Policy Matters

Tel: 020 8977 2216

Mobile: 07967 076604

Email: beverley.evans@policy-matters.com

Notes to the Editor:

Further information for healthcare professionals on Medco Health Solutions [UK] is available from www.medcohealth.co.uk.

With its international headquarters in Dublin, **United Drug plc** is a leading international provider of services to pharmaceutical manufacturers and healthcare providers with operations in the UK, Ireland, Holland, Belgium and the USA. The Company operates across three divisions, Healthcare Supply Chain, Packaging & Speciality Services, and Contract Personnel Services. It provides specialist distribution services throughout the UK.

Medco Health Solutions, Inc. provides clinically driven pharmacy services designed to improve the quality of care and lower total healthcare costs for private and public employers, health plans, labour unions and government agencies of all sizes throughout the United States. Medco is creating innovative models for the care of patients with chronic and complex conditions and is a leader in the emerging field of personalised medicine and in applying evidence-based protocols to elevate the practice of pharmacy. Medco has more than 20,000 employees dedicated to improving patient health and reducing costs for a wide range of public and private sector clients, and has been named among the world's most innovative, most admired and most trustworthy companies. Its international healthcare engagements include initiatives in Sweden, Germany and the United Kingdom.

Date of preparation: August 2009