



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SURESCRIPTS ANNOUNCES THAT EIGHT SOFTWARE VENDORS
HAVE ACHIEVED ADVANCED CERTIFICATION STATUS FOR E-PRESCRIBING**

**Medicare Incentives Drive New Focus on Software That Gives Prescribers
Electronic Access to Prescription Benefit, Prescription History and Prescription Routing**

ALEXANDRIA, Va., and ST. PAUL, Minn. – March 26, 2009 – Surescripts®, which operates the country's largest national electronic prescribing network, today announced that eight physician software applications have achieved advanced certification status. Platinum or Gold Solution Provider status is granted to vendors with software products that have gone beyond Surescripts baseline product certification to meet benchmarks that demonstrate a higher level of commitment to e-prescribing.

The following vendors have achieved Surescripts Platinum Solution Provider status for their respective products:

NextGen EHR Version 5.5.27
RxNT Version 6.1.4

The following vendors have achieved Surescripts Gold Solution Provider status for their respective products:

Allscripts ePrescribe Version 12.5
Axolotl Elysium Version 9
DrFirst Rcopia Version 3.12
eClinicalWorks EMR Version 8.0
GE Centricity EMR 2005 with Kryptiq eSM Version 3.0
NewCrop Core Version 8.0

Platinum Solution Provider status is granted to those companies that not only meet the criteria for Gold Solution Provider status but also take the initiative to become early adopters of next-generation network technology. This includes participating in a pilot project aimed at developing new approaches to further improve electronic prescribing.

"An electronic connection between payers, prescribers and pharmacists is essential to reducing costs and improving the safety and efficiency of a prescribing process relied upon by millions of patients every day," said JP Little and Rick Ratliff, co-CEOs of Surescripts. "For physicians making an investment in the safety of their patients, the efficiency of their practice and the quality of their own clinical decision making, Platinum and Gold Solution Provider certification status helps them know which software vendors are meeting the highest standards for e-prescribing. We congratulate NextGen, RxNT, Allscripts, Axolotl, DrFirst, eClinicalWorks, GE/Kryptiq and NewCrop on achieving advanced certification for their respective products in 2008."

To utilize the Surescripts network, prescribers, pharmacies and PBMs must use software that has completed the Surescripts certification process. This process ensures that the software is able to send and receive electronic messages in accordance with industry standards and that it provides open choice for medication selection and dispensing location. Additionally, certification focuses on patient safety, efficiency of the electronic prescribing process and ease of use by end users. For more information about Surescripts certification, visit www.surescripts.com/certification.html.

One of the foundations of the growth of e-prescribing is the work that Surescripts has done over the past five years certifying the software applications of every major e-prescribing and electronic medical record (EMR) vendor in the U.S. As of Feb. 1, 2009, more than 135 applications were certified by Surescripts to enable physicians' software and services to access prescription information and route prescriptions electronically.

The criteria for Surescripts advanced certification go beyond product compliance with technical standards. Advanced certification is guided by benchmarks for vendor performance across a number of categories, including optimized application workflow, enhanced message handling, and the quality of operations and production monitoring techniques. Advanced certified vendors are required to meet all the requirements in all of these categories.

Requirements for 2009 advanced certification will be communicated to software vendors in the second quarter.

In 2008, the U.S. saw twofold growth in e-prescribing adoption and use. This continues the trend of the last three years. A review of 2006-2008 operational data from SureScripts and RxHub indicates that electronic requests for prescription information, responses to those requests and the number of prescriptions routed electronically totaled nearly half a billion. (Note: More detailed data will be made available in the soon-to-be-released 2008 *National Progress Report on E-Prescribing*. Visit www.surescripts.com/report for more information.)

Tracking a Vendor's Certification Status

Physicians and health IT industry watchers can track the e-prescribing certification status of physician software applications at www.surescripts.com/certified.

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About Surescripts

Surescripts is the result of a 2008 merger between the country's two leading health information networks: RxHub and SureScripts. Surescripts gives healthcare providers secure electronic access to prescription information that can save their patients' lives, improve efficiency and reduce the cost of healthcare for all. Available during emergencies or routine care, the Surescripts network is used every day by thousands of physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners and other prescribers across all 50 states. The Surescripts network connects these prescribers to all of the nation's major chain pharmacies, the nation's leading payers and independent pharmacies nationwide. For more information, go to www.surescripts.com.

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