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Groundbreaking Collaborative Effort Highlights Minnesota Medical Research

Minnesota Clinical Research Alliance Launches

(St. Paul, MN) Today, the Minnesota Clinical Research Alliance (MCRA) was launched during a press conference at University Enterprise Laboratories in St. Paul. MCRA was formed as a collaborative effort among the medical research community to support and educate the public, elected officials and the media about clinical research and its importance to Minnesota's economy and healthcare system.

"Clinical research in Minnesota is essential to finding therapies that improve the lives of our patients today and alter diseases for future generations," said Dr. Gary Berman of Clinical Research Institute. "The organizations that make up MCRA have chosen to put collaboration above competition in the best interest of our patients. We can all accomplish more by working together and promoting the regional strength of research in Minnesota."

Dr. Daniel Ries, the Co-Medical Director of Twin Cities Clinical Research further expanded on the benefits to patients, saying "Clinical research provides options for my patients who have conditions with very limited options. Not only do they have access to compounds which are otherwise unavailable, they also receive closer surveillance and disease monitoring than they otherwise would. Our clinical research program allows Kidney Specialists of Minnesota to provide our patients with treatments which far surpass the community standard of care."

Minnesota is a leader in medical innovation and clinical research. Its economy is based heavily on the medical industry; the state boasts the second highest number of medical technology jobs in the nation. On the clinical research side, Minnesota was home to 11 percent of clinical trials performed in the United States in 2010. Additionally from 2004-2009 Minnesota ranked sixth nationally in Bioscience and related patents.

Representing a state deeply invested in medical innovation, MCRA will be attending the BIO International Convention in Washington D.C. at the end of June. The convention is the largest biotechnology event in the world, drawing more than 15,000 industry leaders in 2010. Participating at the Minnesota Pavilion will allow unequaled exposure of MCRA to the global biomedical community.

Finding the Cures of Tomorrow, Today.



“For nearly a year, this dedicated group has been putting together the structure of this first-of-its-kind organization,” Jeff Cosgrove, President of Prism Research said. “Through this collaborative effort, Minnesota can continue to lead the nation in innovation and research for the benefit of patients and the economy.”

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