

Contact: Tom Kivett
Kivett & Company Communications
+1 212 727-2935
tkivett@kivettandco.com

Global Healthcare Experts Set Forth Guidelines for Improving 'Risk-Sharing' Schemes for Expensive New Treatments

*Consensus on Enhancing Payer Reimbursement Mechanisms Publishes in Adis
PharmacoEconomics*

BRIDGEWATER, N.J. (March 23, 2010) - Wolters Kluwer Pharma Solutions, Inc., a leading provider of scientific information and analytics to the pharmaceutical and biotech fields, announced today that it has published the collective recommendations of an international team of healthcare experts on how payers can improve their risk-sharing approaches for expensive new therapies and technology.

Participants of the 2009 Banff Summit on evidence development, held in Calgary, Canada, reached a consensus about how to better evaluate and design payer reimbursement mechanisms for high-cost medical treatments. Participants included leading risk-sharing experts from Australia, Canada, the U.K. and the U.S., all who were signatories on a consensus statement. The resulting guidelines were published for the first time in the Adis journal [PharmacoEconomics](#) (2010, Vol. 28, No. 2).

“Health decision makers across the globe, such as Medicare in the U.S. and NICE in the U.K., are increasingly looking at ways of managing the uncertainty that often surrounds the therapeutic and economic value of new prescription drugs,” said Christopher Carswell, Editor, *PharmacoEconomics*. “Risk-sharing schemes are one way to allow reimbursement of expensive drugs and limit the cost burden on payers.”

There is often much discussion between payers, manufacturers and patient advocacy groups about the reimbursement of high cost novel drugs used in chronic conditions such as cancer, multiple sclerosis and other debilitating diseases. Payers are often under huge pressure to subsidize these treatments. Coverage with evidence development, or risk sharing, as it is commonly called, allows payers to make these treatments available by sharing the financial risk with the manufacturer. The topic of risk sharing is closely tied to the comparative effectiveness healthcare reforms going through the U.S. legislature. One bill calls for a specific center to be set up within Medicare to devise innovative approaches to risk sharing.

This special issue of *PharmacoEconomics* is devoted entirely to the topic of “access with evidence development” and is intended to help “manage the tension between funding new but expensive treatments and obtaining value.”

According to Carswell, the new guidelines and checklist published in the issue could easily become a template for designing future risk-sharing schemes. It is essential reading for all stakeholders affected by risk-sharing, including manufacturers, patient and advocacy organizations, decision makers and the health insurance industry.

The benchmark journal on the applications of pharmacoeconomics and quality-of-life assessment, *PharmacoEconomics* is an invaluable source of applied original research and educational material for the healthcare decision maker. The journal is dedicated to the clear communication of complex pharmacoeconomic issues related to patient care and drug utilization.

For more information or to purchase *PharmacoEconomics* or any of the other peer-reviewed Adis publications, visit www.adisonline.com. For additional information, visit the company's website at www.wolterskluwerpharma.com.

###

Editor's Note: For a free PDF look at *PharmacoEconomics* (2010, Vol. 28, No. 2) or to set an interview with Chris Carswell, please contact Tom Kivett at +1 212 727-2935 or email at tkivett@kivettandco.com.

About Wolters Kluwer Pharma Solutions

[Wolters Kluwer Pharma Solutions, Inc.](http://www.wolterskluwerpharma.com) (Bridgewater, NJ) provides clinical and healthcare data and analytics, leading medical publishing services, and market intelligence tools to the pharmaceutical, biotech, and medical device fields. The company's brands include [Adis](#), [Source](#)[®] and [VisionCare Group](#). The global publisher Adis, provides peer-reviewed journals promoting rational pharmacology and effective patient management, and offers highly respected drug and clinical trials databases. A longstanding provider of market data and healthcare analytics, Source[®] offers a unique set of comprehensive patient and physician-level prescribing and usage data. VisionCare Group is a publisher of business and specialty publications and producer of conferences and e-media products targeting the vision market. For more information, visit www.wolterskluwerpharma.com.

The company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Wolters Kluwer, U.S., part of [Wolters Kluwer](#), a market-leading global information services company. Professionals in the areas of legal, business, tax, accounting, finance, audit, risk, compliance, and healthcare rely on Wolters Kluwer's leading, information-enabled tools and solutions to manage their business efficiently, deliver results to their clients, and succeed in an ever more dynamic world.

Wolters Kluwer has 2009 annual revenues of €3.4 billion (\$4.8 billion), employs approximately 19,300 people worldwide, and maintains operations in over 40 countries across Europe, North America, Asia Pacific, and Latin America. Wolters Kluwer is headquartered in Alphen aan den Rijn, the Netherlands. Its shares are quoted on Euronext Amsterdam (WKL) and are included in the AEX and Euronext 100 indices.

Visit [our website](#), [YouTube](#) or follow @Wolters_Kluwer on [Twitter](#) for more information about our customers, market positions, brands, and organization.