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EXPANDED INDEPENDENT PHARMACY MATCHING SERVICE

Alexandria, Virginia, March 23, 2004 – Keeping independent community pharmacies in the hands of independent pharmacists is a primary goal of the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA). To further that goal, NCPA is expanding the services and scope of the Independent Pharmacy Matching Service (IPMS).

IPMS, which enables prospective buyers and sellers of community pharmacies to connect in a confidential manner, has been a part of NCPA's Management Institute offerings for 16 years. To date, it has enabled independent pharmacy owners and prospective purchasers to post their offerings in *America's Pharmacist* magazine and on the NCPA website.

Through an affiliation with Buy-Sellpharmacy.com®, the services provided by IPMS will be greatly expanded. The principals of Buy-Sell consist of seven experienced businesspeople, five of whom are pharmacists who have collectively bought, sold, and owned more than a dozen independent community pharmacies. The firm's national scope, with representatives in all major regions of the country, will enable the enhanced IPMS to broaden its services to NCPA members and prospective purchasers throughout the country quickly and easily.

"NCPA is pleased to be able to enhance the services and assistance available through IPMS," said Bruce Roberts, R.Ph., NCPA executive vice president and CEO. "Our relationship with Buy-Sellpharmacy.com will allow us to further assist aspiring owners with their pharmacy purchase and assist our members wishing to sell their pharmacy to another independent."

Included among the expanded offerings is the ability for pharmacy owners to receive a professional evaluation of their businesses prior to listing it for sale. Additionally, Buy-Sell professionals will assist owners in drafting the most

effective language for listing their pharmacies for sale. NCPA members are eligible for special discounts on many of the enhanced IPMS services.

“We are excited about our affiliation with NCPA in assisting pharmacists, owners and prospective owners alike, in dealing with the myriad of issues involved in the transfer of community pharmacy ownership,” said Tony De Nicola, R.Ph., managing partner of Buy-Sellpharmacy.com. “The experience of our seven team members in the areas of exit strategy planning, acquisition financing, business valuation, and the acquisition of community pharmacies is very broad. Coupling this with NCPA’s large membership base and significant contacts with student pharmacists and other potential owners will enable us to provide assistance in maintaining the integrity of the independent pharmacy community throughout the country.”

The affiliation allows NCPA to collect a list of pre-qualified buyers to better match them with potential sellers. A service to assist buyers in obtaining financing will also be available. For more information, visit the IPMS section of the NCPA website at www.ncpanet.org or call 1-800-296-IPMS.

The National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) represents the nation’s community pharmacists, including the owners of nearly 24,000 pharmacies. The nation’s independent pharmacies, independent pharmacy franchises, and independent chains represent a \$67 billion marketplace, dispensing nearly half of the nation's three billion retail prescription medicines.

Buy-Sellpharmacy.com® is an Internet-driven company serving pharmacy owners and prospective pharmacy purchasers throughout the United States. The firm’s services include the evaluation and appraisal of community pharmacies for a multitude of purposes, exit strategy planning and counseling for independent pharmacy owners and the brokering of the sale of independent community pharmacies.