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For Immediate Release

ASAP ANNOUNCES NEW PRESCRIPTION-MONITORING PROGRAM STANDARD

Blue Bell, PA — March 7, 2008 — The 2007 version of the ASAP prescription-monitoring program (PMP) standard is now available. While this latest version follows the design and syntax of the 2005 ASAP standard, it has been enhanced to allow for more precise reporting of controlled substances and other drugs as required by prescription-monitoring programs.

Twenty-five states currently have prescription-monitoring programs and 10 states are in the legislative process to implement a PMP. The ASAP standard has facilitated the implementation of these programs over the years.

Highlights of the 2007 version are:

- The standard now contains only four core-reporting segments. These capture information on the patient; the details of the actual prescription itself, including payment type; information on the prescriber; and the details of a compound where an ingredient is a reportable drug.
- Data looping has been added for more efficient reporting where more than one reportable drug is dispensed to a patient or where a compound may include more than one reportable ingredient.
- The standard can be used for real-time reporting as well as batch-file reporting.
- A data element has been added for identification of reportable prescriptions dispensed for animals.
- More detailed instructions are included on the correct use of segments and data elements.
- There is greater consistency in the use of code values throughout.
- Examples have been improved on how to structure a transaction.
- Several examples are included on how to report prescriptions with decimal quantities.

As with the 2005 standard the latest version is rules based, meaning data elements are classified as either required or situational. Where situational, the situation for use is clearly defined.

The Prescription-Monitoring Program Model Act of 2002, developed by the Alliance of States with Prescription-Monitoring Programs and the National Association of State Controlled Substances Authorities was used as the basis for the essential reporting requirements.

“This latest version of the ASAP standard represents a number of improvements over the 2005 version, which should allow prescription-monitoring programs to be more effective in reducing fraud, abuse, and misuse of these drugs. We are very pleased to be able to contribute to this important cause,” says Ken Whittemore, ASAP president.

Participants in the ASAP workgroup included representatives from several states with prescription-monitoring programs as well as system vendors and pharmacy stakeholders. The standard was thoroughly vetted over a four-month period by the workgroup.

The 2007 version is being made available to state prescription-monitoring programs at no charge. Commercial entities must purchase the document.

Information on how to order the 2007 standard is available at www.asapnet.org or by calling 610/825-7783.

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