FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

[Dr./Mr./Ms. LAST NAME] Goes to Washington!

Local Pharmacist Lobbies to Preserve Patients’ Access to Compounded Medications

[CITY], [State] – [NAME], of [PHARMACY NAME] in [CITY] joined a nationwide effort to preserve patient access to compounded medications as part of the International Academy of Compounding Pharmacists (IACP) 2016 Compounders on Capitol Hill (CCH) 22nd annual conference and legislative event, held June 11-14, 2016 in Washington, D.C.

[NAME] and more than 300 community pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and pharmacy students traveled to Washington to meet with their lawmakers and hear from Congressmen Buddy Carter (R-GA), Doug Collins (R-GA) and Chris Stewart (R-UT). The compounding representatives discussed preserving patient access to customized medications, and challenges with the Food & Drug Administration’s (FDA) implementation of the federal Drug Quality and Security Act (DQSA).

“This trip provided the opportunity to speak directly to members of Congress and voice concerns on behalf of our practitioners and their patients, whose access to pharmacy compounds directly impacts their health care,” said [NAME]. “Some of our profession’s most active pharmacists gathered in our nation’s capital to take the voice of compounding to the Hill.”

[PHARMACY NAME] serves more than [NUMBER] patients in the [CITY] area. Approximately [PERCENT] of its patients take compounded medications prepared specifically for them at the direction of their physician.

“Compounding pharmacists went to Washington to speak with their Senator and Congressional representatives about several issues that directly affect their patients,” says IACP President Gary McCrory, RPh, CCN. “We were particularly interested in discussing DQSA with our respective representation to ensure access to pharmacy compounding continues. We also emphasized the need for increased communications between the States and the FDA.”

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IACP continues to educate patients, prescribers, pharmacists, patient advocacy groups, congressional offices, regulatory agencies, state pharmacy associations and state pharmacy boards about the vital importance of continued access to compounded medications.

“Our IACP Members’ visits with Congress occurred at a particularly important time for compounding pharmacies across the country and for the patients whom they serve, says IACP Executive Vice President John Voliva, RPh. “We believe it’s vital that patients and practitioners continue to have access to compounded medications prepared by licensed pharmacists who are following the necessary guidelines and who are helping patients and practitioners with personalized medication solutions each and every day. FDA continues to ignore DQSA’s congressional intent which we believe could detrimentally affect patient safety and access to the compounded medications upon which patients rely. We are working closely with our Hill representation, federal regulatory agencies, and state boards of pharmacy to ensure that DQSA is enacted as it was intended by Congress.”

About [Pharmacy Name]

[Paragraph About Pharmacy]

About IACP

The International Academy of Compounding Pharmacists (IACP) is an association representing more than 4,000 pharmacists, technicians, students, and members of the compounding community who focus upon the specialty practice of pharmacy compounding. Compounding pharmacists work directly with prescribers including physicians, nurse practitioners and veterinarians to create customized medication solutions for patients and animals whose healthcare needs cannot be met by manufactured medications. IACP’s mission of protecting, promoting and advancing personalized medication solutions is critical for patient healthcare. Visit www.iacprx.org to learn more and to find a compounding pharmacist near you.