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TCGRx Provides Solutions for Impending Shorter Cycle Regulations

POWERS LAKE, Wis., November 3, 2010 – TCGRx (TCG) announces the launch of the ShortCycleRx® dispensing solution to provide long term care (LTC) pharmacies a series of comprehensive dispensing options to meet the demands of the potential CMS regulations as well as meet the overall market desire to reduce medication waste. ShortCycleRx is a unique approach that focuses on financial and production efficiencies in the pharmacy that makes short cycle dispensing not only marketable but also profitable.

The impetus for the short dispense cycle centers on a CMS (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services) estimation that Medicare Part D could save money by dispensing medication in cycles of seven days or less, thus controlling the amount of waste created by residents who do not finish the entirety of a prescription. TCG's ShortCycleRx solutions save LTC pharmacies and facilities money through reduced waste but they also save LTC pharmacies money through reduced packaging and labor costs by utilizing customized variations of technology that reduce the manual components of traditional medication packaging.

ShortCycleRx solves the dilemma of how to implement the short dispense cycle by providing unique solutions to LTC pharmacies. Depending on the pharmacy's business model and the LTC facilities' characteristics, TCG provides either a central pharmacy production model, a hybrid solution comprised of central filling and facility medication access, or a complete remote medication access solution which includes a real time packaging product for the facility, the Remote Tablet Packager (RTP). TCG works with pharmacies to determine a solution that delivers optimal operational efficiency and cost savings for both the pharmacy and the individual facility.

TCG's central pharmacy solution includes an Automatic Tablet Packager (ATP) that automates unit-dose or multi-dose pouches; replacing existing and more expensive 30-day packaging formats. The central fill pouch system allows pharmacies to expand marketing opportunities and fuels growth in new markets all while reducing and controlling costs. "Our ATP machine at Discover Rx has proven to be a reliable, accurate, and valuable dispensing system. Using the ATP we were able to move to a cost effective short cycle fill that makes sense for us and our customers. Overall, the ATP has demonstrated to be a useful asset for our pharmacy's production and accuracy. Our customers gain the benefits of reduced medication waste and our pharmacy is able to save packaging costs and control labor," stated Debbie Frick, Production Supervisor at DiscoverRx.

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TCG's hybrid model allows for central pharmacy filling while leveraging remote dispensing from a secure medication cabinet for first doses, STATs, PRNs, and LOA medications. The hybrid model utilizes the ATP and ServeRx secure medication cabinets to reduce pharmacy deliveries and all but eliminate emergency deliveries.

For nursing homes or correctional facilities that are remote and/or have a high acuity patient census, a completely remote automated packaging system and secure medication cabinets provide a more cost effective and practical short cycle solution. The ServeRx med cabinet safely dispenses only one medication at a time to fill a patient's order and meets DEA requirements for controlled medications. The cabinets interface with the central pharmacy to allow for automatic replenishment. This solution also allows for patient profiling for billing and patient specific dispensing. The remote tablet packing option allows for dispense by pass-time which reduces medication waste.

All of the ShortCycleRx systems from TCG provide custom business solutions that fuel business growth while decreasing costs.

About TCGRx

TCGRx offers the most reliable pharmacy automation on the market and strategically develops customized technology solutions backed by decades of experience. The staff designs and integrates automation into every aspect of our packaging devices, workflow software, and other individual products to improve the overall process in your pharmacy. TCGRx is dedicated to providing superior customer service and support by offering the most cost-effective methods to give pharmacies safe, efficient, and accurate solutions.

TCGRx is an industry leader in automation and designs services for hospital, long-term care, retail, and specialty pharmacy markets. The company has a strong presence in all pharmacy markets throughout the United States and Canada. TCGRx headquarters is located in Powers Lake, WI. For more information, visit www.tcgrx.com or call 262.279.5307.