



Sponsor of the Voluntary Universal Healthcare Identifier

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Global Patient Identifiers, Inc. and MEDNETWorld.com Announce Partnership to Deploy Universal Healthcare Identifier System**

TUCSON, AZ, May 5, 2009 - MEDNETWorld.com (MEDNET), a Minneapolis-based national healthcare software company connecting diverse healthcare organizations utilizing the Nationwide Health Information Network (NHIN), and Global Patient Identifiers, Inc. a Tucson-based non-profit company focused on a single healthcare identifier solution (GPII), today announced their partnership to deploy GPII's Voluntary Universal Healthcare Identifier (VUHID) system to improve the efficiency and accuracy of patient identification and increase patient control over their clinical information. The service allows participating hospitals, clinics and other providers to issue inexpensive cards to patients that identify them across any GPII-connected system. The system provides the tools to ensure that sensitive patient data stays at each participating clinic or hospital, protected by the doctors the patients trust today.

"We are very excited to offer this groundbreaking product to our customers," John Fraser, CEO and board chairman of MEDNETWorld.com, Inc. said. "As local and national networks connect clinics and hospitals, providers will need easy ways to accurately identify their patients. We feel this service will enhance patient privacy while speeding clinical information sharing in emergencies and disasters. Bottom line - this will save lives. By swiping an inexpensive card controlled by the patient, patients will reduce their need to fill out forms every time they see a new doctor, allowing providers to offer faster and more effective, efficient care" continued Mr. Fraser.

MEDNET's customers include health information exchanges (HIEs), payers, public health and researchers in the US who are working on ways to securely share clinical and research data among numerous parties. "MEDNET's customer focus is exactly what we need to demonstrate the value that VUHID will bring to patients and providers," said Barry Hieb, MD, GPII Chief Scientist. "We truly believe that the debate shouldn't be about whether or not to exchange clinical data, but how to give patients more control over the privacy of their information, and assure caregivers that they have secure access to the information they need to provide high quality care, while supporting the needs of all stakeholders."



The agreement announced today will allow MEDNET to offer VUHID-numbered cards to its clients as part of its MEDNET NHIN Gateway product suite. MEDNET will also be donating equipment and software to the non-profit GPII as part of the agreement to help launch the service. The first deployment of VUHID in a MEDNET customer site is expected by mid-summer 2009.

#### About MEDNET

Founded in 2007 by experts in healthcare technology, MEDNET's NHIN Suite of Services connect diverse healthcare technology systems so that medical information can be transmitted quickly and securely while guaranteeing patient privacy. MEDNET is involved in helping build the emerging Nationwide Health Information Network (NHIN) to standardize healthcare information technology transmission. Web site: [www.mednetworld.com](http://www.mednetworld.com)

#### About GPII

GPII was formed as a non-profit corporation in 2008 to deploy and support the VUHID system as a unique, efficient system to support patient identity management and enhanced privacy protections as the proliferation of regional health information organizations (RHIOs) and health information exchanges (HIEs) presents the opportunity to evaluate practical solutions to the challenges of a single patient identifier. VUHID is based on ASTM International standards and reflects GPII's position that a voluntary, universal patient identifier is essential to achieve high quality, low cost healthcare in the United States. Web site: [www.gpii.info](http://www.gpii.info)

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