



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**PIEDMONT MEDICAL GROUP (PMG) PARTNERS WITH  
ICON CLINICAL RESEARCH**

*Partnership establishes collaboration to enhance Patient Recruitment approach*

**WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. – December 15, 2008** – Piedmont Medical Group (PMG), a leader in the clinical research industry with an experienced Integrated Site Network (ISN) of clinical research facilities, and ICON Clinical Research, a division of ICON plc, today announced an agreement that formalizes the working relationship between the two companies. PMG will provide ICON with feasibility intelligence and access to quality driven investigator sites that are coordinated centrally.

“We are very pleased to be partnering with ICON Clinical Research,” said Dr. Thomas W. Littlejohn, III, President and Medical Director of PMG and leading U.S. Principal Investigator. “Our relationship will allow us to enhance planning and preparation for clinical trials, including further development of our clinical trial professionals and expansion of our network of facilities.” Dr. Littlejohn added, “This partnership, along with our newly launched website and participant education initiatives, are important steps toward our goal of consistently improving the clinical trials process and the experience of our partners and participants.”

“This agreement with PMG provides ICON Clinical Research with a partner who has a diverse and established network of clinical research facilities,” commented Pam Howard, Vice President, Project Planning & Analysis, ICON Clinical Research. “PMG’s infrastructure and experience will serve as an integral resource in helping to deliver quality results and efficiency in terms of patient enrollment and retention to our clients. We look forward to working together to achieve this.”

**About PMG**

Piedmont Medical Group (PMG) is an Integrated Site Network (ISN) of clinical research facilities. Our progressive organization is comprised of a team of highly effective professionals and a network of specially-designed sites. Our goal is to provide exceptional services to our sponsors and participants. With extensive experience across all phases of clinical trials, PMG has conducted 5,000 research studies for 100 pharmaceutical sponsors and CRO’s. Visit us at [www.pmg-research.com](http://www.pmg-research.com).

**About ICON plc**

ICON plc is a global provider of outsourced development services to the pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device industries. The Company specializes in the strategic development, management and analysis of programs that support clinical development - from compound selection to Phase I-IV clinical studies. ICON teams have successfully conducted over 5,500 development projects and consultancy engagements across all major therapeutic areas. With headquarters in Dublin, Ireland, ICON currently operates from 71 locations in 38 countries and has approximately 6,600 employees. Further information is available at [www.iconplc.com](http://www.iconplc.com).

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