

Press Release

## **Bilcare opens clinical research academy at Bangalore Ties –up with Bangalore Diabetes Hospital**

Bangalore, December 17, 2007: Bilcare Research, service provider to the pharmaceutical companies spanning across their value chain from drug discovery to market launched **Bilcare Research Academy in Bangalore**

**The academy was launched by Dr. John L. LaMattina, Senior Vice President, Pfizer Inc and President, Pfizer Global Research and Development.** The event also witnessed the launch of the ACRP chapter by Thomas Adams, President and CEO, ACRP and Smt. Usha Ganesh, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Health and Family Welfare, Government of Karnataka. Also present at the event was Mr. Venkateswarlu, Drug Controller General, India.

**Bilcare Research Academy's exclusive tie-up with the Bangalore Diabetes Hospital** ensures a true industry-academia interaction organised to help the students and the faculty gain experience with respect to specific ongoing global clinical trials, interact with IRB members to get first hand information regarding its functioning, and interact with investigators understanding their role.

In alliance with The Association of Clinical Research Professionals (ACRP), Bilcare Research Academy offers a Post Graduate Diploma in Clinical Trial Management (PGDCTM). It currently operates two successful batches at its Pune centre. **Bilcare has signed an exclusive agreement with ACRP**, the apex body in clinical research, giving students the advantage of a globally accepted ACRP certificate. This is a first-of-its-kind ACRP accredited professional course in Asia.

According to Mr. Mohan Bhandari, Managing Director, Bilcare Research, "With the opening of our Bangalore centre we can bridge the quality manpower and knowledge pool gap for the region". He further added, "Clinical research activity has seen an exponential rise in the last few years. Industry sources suggest that by 2010 the total market could touch 2.0 billion dollars and the industry would require approx 20,000 to 50,000 trained personnel. Bilcare intends to bridge this gap and produce around 5000 world-class clinical research professionals by 2010."

Along with world class education, the course offers "hands-on" training to every student as well as gives an understanding of Good Clinical Practice (GCP). Classroom teaching is augmented by the inclusion of seminars, project work, debates and group discussions and practical training in clinical trial management at Research Organizations, pharmaceutical companies or at investigator sites.

In addition to training students Bilcare will also conduct continuing education programmes (CEP) for professionals already in the field of clinical research.

The course is made up of 14 modules; each of which has been thoroughly studied by both Bilcare and ACRP for its relevance and quality. On successful completion of the program, a student gets a **Bilcare-ACRP diploma**, which entitles him to work any where in the world. With only 50 seats in each batch, the admission procedure begins with an online test. The student to teacher ratio at the Academy stands at 1:8 ensuring personal attention to every individual. The Students are also entitled to a free one-year ACRP membership.

The highly experienced faculty comprises of eminent personnel drawn from pharma and clinical research industry. Senior professionals from various CROs and the Pharmaceutical Industry have already joined the advisory board of the academy. Bilcare also has access to ACRP members and faculty worldwide.

**About Bilcare Research:**

Headquartered in Pune, Bilcare provides integrated packaging solutions across the entire spectrum of pharmaceutical value chain through five focused business activities – Research Services, Clinical Services, Design Lab, Research Academy and Packaging Materials. Bilcare operates state-of-the art manufacturing facilities in India, Singapore, US & UK and has regional offices in Brazil, Germany, China & Australia which caters to global clients - J&J, Merck, GSK, Sanofi, Pfizer, Novartis, Wyeth, Ranbaxy, Dr. Reddy to name a few. Bilcare Research is increasingly changing the face of pharma industry by enabling global pharmaceuticals companies and their brands with better communication, patient compliance, cost, convenience and checking counterfeit through its innovative solutions.

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