

**University of Miami Miller School of Medicine and Humana
Launch Drug Safety Surveillance Program**

The University of Miami Miller School of Medicine and Humana Inc. (NYSE: HUM) today announced the launch of a new Pharmacovigilance Initiative at the University's medical campus in Miami. The new program will focus on prescription drug safety -- in particular, the science of detecting and understanding adverse drug events.

"It is estimated that about 2 million people in this country experience a serious adverse drug reaction each year," said University of Miami President Donna E. Shalala. "Clearly, something in our system is not working properly, and this new program will track the problem and offer solutions based on good science and research."

The new Pharmacovigilance Initiative will be undertaken by the University of Miami-Humana Health Services Research Center, a public-private partnership established in 2005 to focus on health services and health behavior research with an emphasis on improving health outcomes for individual patients.

"Pharmacovigilance represents yet another area where the University and Humana have a unique opportunity to bridge the research gap between the bench and the bedside and give consumers a real time, transparent view into the healthcare system," said Jonathan Lord, M.D., Humana's Chief Innovation Officer.

Although the Center works with a number of entities today to design and produce cutting edge research on conditions like metabolic syndrome, obesity, heart disease and diabetes, the new Pharmacovigilance Initiative will be an independent pursuit aimed at protecting the health and safety of the public, supporting better clinician decision making through reporting on the comparative effectiveness of pharmaceuticals, and contributing to the ongoing dialogue in Washington around drug safety.

“Right now, the reporting of adverse drug events to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration is strictly voluntary, and the recent drug recalls and stepped-up black box warnings would suggest something more needs to be done to protect patient safety,” said Pascal J. Goldschmidt, M.D., senior vice president for medical affairs and dean of the Miller School of Medicine. “This new initiative between the Miller School of Medicine and Humana is the right thing to do for the patient, at the right time.”

Further complicating the risks of adverse drug events, roughly 21 percent of all medications are prescribed “off label,” or for uses other than what they were approved for by the FDA. Little is known about clinical and cost impacts of off-label use.

“We will be looking at a wide range of medications to track trends in side effects and potential adverse events,” said William J. O’Neill, M.D., executive dean for clinical affairs and medical director of the Pharmacovigilance Initiative. “For example, we are analyzing the outcomes of 41,000 diabetics in Humana’s population, including Avandia users.”

Avandia is the diabetes drug that recently came under fire because of a reported increase in heart attack risk.

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The Center will be appointing a multi-disciplinary Advisory Board, including a medical ethicist, to provide guidance on the clinical domains of exploration and communicating findings to the public. Beyond Avandia and several other targeted analyses, the University of Miami and Humana expect the Pharmacovigilance Initiative to begin communicating through public releases and a consumer Website a large volume of research findings in early 2008.