

Media Release



**HEALTHCARE
PRODUCTS
COLLABORATIVE**

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For Immediate Release

Regulatory Officials and Professionals Groups Form Partnership to Further Healthcare Products Industry Dialogue Including MedCon Conference

(February 28, 2022) — The Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) and the Regulatory Affairs Professionals Society (RAPS) have come together to support sharing, collaboration, and learning across the global healthcare products community. With a focus on fostering open discussions of the most pressing issues facing the industry, the AFDO/RAPS Healthcare Products Collaborative will carry on Xavier Heath’s 12-year legacy of delivering the Xavier MedCon Conference.

“The annual MedCon Conference has historically provided outreach and engagement with stakeholders in the medical products industry with government colleagues to discuss trends, innovations, and challenges in an educational setting,” says Steven Mandernach, AFDO Executive Director. “It is our partnership’s desire to fill that need into the future. We are continuing to work with the more than 150 industry and government representatives involved in medical products working groups and committees.”

The MedCon 2022 Conference will be held virtually May 4–6, 2022. This event will bring together medical device regulators and industry experts from around the world for content-rich conference sessions that include uncommon collaboration, deep dialogue, and networking as close as your computer.

“MedCon has distinguished itself from other conferences by presenting information on current, leading-edge issues presented by government and industry leaders with the goal of identifying real solutions to current issues, and collectively sharing individual experiences and expertise to help advance the protection of public health,” notes Bill McMoil, RAPS Interim Executive Director and COO. “We see this area as an important expansion of our commitment to serve a wide array of stakeholders from across the entire medical products and healthcare communities.”

The AFDO/RAPS Healthcare Products Collaborative reflects the support of both organizations to continue the important work Xavier Health has done to advance the industry. **This new partnership will also produce Xavier Health’s other industry events—including the PharmaLink Conference, Combination Products Summit, and AI Summit.**

Prior MedCon Conferences have been credited with providing open, transparent interactions with stakeholders, and the AFDO/RAPS Healthcare Products Collaborative plans to support and enhance these efforts. During the 2022 conference, attendees will:

- Experience paradigm-shifting dialogue leading to practical solutions that can be implemented immediately.
- Learn proactive and predictive methods to protect products, businesses, and patients.
- Gain cross-functional insights that foster critical alignment and collaboration across organizations.

MedCon 2022 registration is now open. For more information and to view the virtual program details, visit www.healthcareproducts.org/MedCon. Information about the Collaborative and announcements for future events can be found at www.healthcareproducts.org.

Members of the media who wish to cover the 2022 MedCon Conference should contact the media representatives listed above.

About the Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO)

The Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) is a well-recognized national organization that represents state, territorial, and local regulatory. The Association's principal purpose is to act as the leader and a resource to state, territorial, and local regulatory agencies in developing strategies to resolve and promote public health and consumer protection related to the regulation of food, medical products, and cosmetics.

AFDO members are officials from federal, state, territorial, and local regulatory agencies that administer these programs in conjunction and collaboration with FDA. Although industry associate members can join AFDO, the organization is very unique in that only government regulatory officials can vote on matters addressed by the Association. Unlike other organizations, this gives AFDO a unique perspective on the infrastructure, capacity, strengths, and needs of state and local food protection programs. Further AFDO works on issues related to food, medical products, and cosmetics and has subject matters experts available in all disciplines related to FDA regulated products. AFDO has a strong history dating back to 1896 of collaborating with other organizations including associations, nonprofits, universities, and industry. AFDO members and stakeholders play a critical role in formulating law, regulations and best practices related to drugs and medical products. www.afdo.org

About Regulatory Affairs Professionals Society (RAPS)

The Regulatory Affairs Professionals Society (RAPS) is the largest global organization of and for those involved with the regulation of healthcare and related products, including medical devices, pharmaceuticals, biologics and nutritional products. Founded in 1976, RAPS helped establish the regulatory profession and continues to actively support the professional and lead the profession as a neutral, non-lobbying nonprofit organization. RAPS offers education and training, professional standards, publications, research, knowledge sharing, networking, career development opportunities and other valuable resources, including Regulatory Affairs Certification (RAC), the only post-academic professional credential to recognize regulatory excellence. RAPS is headquartered in suburban Washington, DC, with chapters and affiliates worldwide. www.RAPS.org.