

For Immediate Release

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**WEST MICHIGAN DRUG RESEARCH COMPANY SET TO BEGIN
MAJOR CLINICAL TRIAL OF DIABETES DRUG**

*Company to use national network of clinical sites,
including locations in West Michigan.*

KALAMAZOO, MICH. (Sept. 30, 2008) – Metabolic Solutions Development Company (MSDC) announced today that it has initiated a Phase IIa clinical trial for its drug therapy designed to treat type 2 diabetes without the side effects of current treatments. This phase of clinical trials will provide the first direct evidence for a therapeutic effect in diabetic patients.

The MSDC drug being tested is part of a portfolio being developed by two local scientists who have spent their career working on type 2 diabetes. They also helped develop the current market leader in type 2 diabetes treatment during their tenure as scientists with Upjohn Company.

“Our drug development program focuses on a different molecular target than the efforts of other pharmaceutical companies who have modeled potential drug candidates as activators of various nuclear receptors,” said Dr. Jerry Colca, President and Chief Scientific Officer of MSDC. “We believe that by avoiding direct activation of nuclear receptors, our products will provide a safer benefit to individuals with type 2 diabetes and importantly help shift the treatment paradigm to earlier treatment to avoid the progressive worsening of diabetes and its complications.”

More than 100 patients will participate at 14 planned sites around the nation, including West Michigan. This Phase IIa trial follows two successful Phase I trials that validate early indications of an improved pharmacokinetic and safety profile of the new drug.

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West Michigan Drug Company to Begin Major Clinical Trial – Page 2

“We are pleased that our lead compound performed so well in Phase I studies,” said Mark Olesnavage, Chief Executive Officer of MSDC. “Pre-clinical studies suggest that this compound can deliver significant pharmacological benefit without some of the complications inherent in current therapies.” This would be a significant improvement to current therapies in the type 2 diabetes market, which globally accounted for more than \$10 billion in sales in 2007.

Complications from leading diabetes therapies include weight gain and edema as well the potential for congestive heart failure and bone loss.

Based on current plans, MSDC believes that its first product, referred to as MSDC-0160, could be approved for patients by 2013. Following Phase IIa trials, additional safety and expanded efficacy data will be gathered in a Phase IIb study which is currently in the planning stage.

According to the American Diabetes Association, approximately \$1 in \$10 health care dollars is attributed to diabetes. While an estimated 17.9 million people have been diagnosed with diabetes, 5.7 million (or nearly one in four) are unaware that they have the disease. There were 1.6 million new cases of diabetes in the United States during 2007. This growth rate of 7% continues to outpace the population growth and has been described by many healthcare professionals as an epidemic.

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Metabolic Solutions Development Company (www.msDRx.com), based in Kalamazoo, Mich., is developing innovative therapeutics using a different pharmacological path to treat type 2 diabetes. This new approach seeks to improve the efficacy of treatment by freeing patients from the adverse side effects of current treatments, including edema and weight gain.

The company’s scientific strategy is built on a historical understanding of insulin-sensitizing thiazolidinediones (TZDs) and its unique insight into the mechanism of insulin-sensitizing pharmacology. The company believes that the result will be a new generation of superior, safer drug therapies.