



Ontario Children's Health Network

PRESS RELEASE

MEDBUY AND OCHN ENTER INTO AGREEMENT TO CREATE NEW PAEDIATRIC PORTFOLIO

Medbuy and the Ontario Children's Health Network (OCHN) are pleased to announce they have entered into an agreement for OCHN members to join Medbuy, participating in a new Paediatric Portfolio launched as a result of this agreement.

Medbuy is a national health care Group Purchasing Organization owned by its members who are Canada's leading health care providers. On behalf of its members, Medbuy contracts with a wide variety of suppliers for goods and services in the health care field. The company's goal is to deliver the highest value possible so as to further enhance its members' ability to provide exceptional care to the patients they serve.

OCHN is a strategic partnership of Ontario's six Paediatric Academic Health Sciences Centres, whose goal is to achieve timely access to world-class paediatric care for Ontario's three million children and youth as close to home as possible.

In the Fall of 2004, OCHN struck a Joint Purchasing Task Force in order to explore the opportunity for maximizing purchasing efficiency for neonatal and paediatric products amongst the OCHN partners. In June, 2005 a recommendation from the Joint Purchasing Task Force for the development of a paediatric GPO in partnership with Medbuy was approved by the OCHN Steering Committee.

"The creation of a Paediatric Portfolio has been a strategic goal for the past two years since Medbuy entered into a partnership with the Canadian Association of Paediatric Health Centres (CAPHC), to promote national child and youth health protocols and standards." advises Medbuy CEO Rick Cochrane, "Medbuy has always had a strong paediatric representation and the agreement with OCHN is significant in enabling Medbuy to add to its existing core of paediatric hospitals across Canada."

Marilyn Booth, Executive Director, OCHN said "the OCHN membership is thrilled with the creation of a Paediatric Portfolio and is very much looking forward to the opportunity to work with Medbuy to address the longstanding challenges of paediatric-specific supplies and equipment. The focus of this initiative is not only on maximizing purchasing efficiency but also collaboration on evaluation and education strategies, the development

of product- related policies and procedures, management of discontinuations and advocating for the development of new products to meet the needs of children.

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