Pentec Health’s Proplete® Demonstrates Increased Nutrition Levels in Diabetes Patients

*Analysis Demonstrates Proplete is Superior in Raising Albumin Blood Protein Levels Compared to Traditional Intradialytic Parenteral Nutrition Therapies*

*Data Presented at National Kidney Foundation 2011 Spring Clinical Meeting*

Philadelphia, PA (PRWEB) May 24, 2011 -- Pentec Health, an industry leading Specialty Infusion Services company, recently performed a head-to-head, retrospective analysis of patients who received its innovative Proplete® therapy (n=200) against patients who received Pentec’s traditional nutrition products (n=125). The analysis demonstrated that Proplete achieved similar increases in an important blood protein, called albumin, compared with Pentec’s traditional Intradialytic Parenteral Nutrition therapies (IDPN), while providing fewer calories. Furthermore, Proplete was superior (p=0.018) as compared to Pentec’s traditional IDPN in raising albumin levels in patients with diabetes. In addition to this poster presentation, Pentec Health gave a lecture titled Influences on Appetite and Nutrient Intake in Patients with End Stage Kidney Disease, as well as led a Renal Roundtable on malnutrition.

The Current State of Kidney Disease
Today there are more than a half million end-stage kidney disease patients in the United States. More than half of those are serious enough to require hemodialysis, a process that removes wastes, salts and fluid from the blood when the kidneys are no longer healthy enough to do this work. Many patients experience malnutrition as a byproduct of their disease state. Proplete IDPN therapies are administered during hemodialysis treatments. IDPN formulations, typically comprised of amino acids, dextrose, and lipid, are used to compensate for a patient’s inadequate protein intake in order to improve nutrition, blood proteins, muscle mass, and/or weight. Proplete has some significant differences in formulation from traditional IDPN formulations. Unlike traditional products, Proplete was formulated with reduced dextrose with the intent to reduce the common complication of high blood glucose levels in patients with diabetes. Proplete also contains no lipid, whereas other intravenous nutrition products include lipid. It has fewer calories and is lower in volume than traditional IDPN, characteristics that are intended to allow for easier fluid removal to more aptly manage the fluid retention that is a common consequence for patients receiving dialysis.

“These are compelling findings,” stated Eileen Moore, CNSC, R.D., L.D., a nationally recognized expert on IDPN and Renal Program Clinical Director at Pentec. “Our earlier observations of the fact that patients with malnutrition as evidenced by low albumin levels, also had body mass index (BMI) that would be considered normal weight to overweight. This led us to believe that hemodialysis patients have more difficulty achieving adequate protein intake than calorie intake, and that theory is supported by these results.”

More than a matter of providing calories and protein, Moore explained that by lowering the dextrose, which reduces hyperglycemia, and omitting lipid, there is an advantage to the body’s ability to be anabolic rather than in an inflammatory and catabolic state, thereby allowing protein to be utilized more effectively for protein synthesis especially in patients with diabetes.

The abstract is available in the Journal of Renal Nutrition 21(2) March 2011: 207.

About Proplete®
Proplete®, a new line of patent-pending Intradialytic Parenteral Nutrition (IDPN) protein therapy, helps to restore blood proteins in patients affected by protein depletion from chronic dialysis. Together with the patient’s oral intake, Proplete supplies 100 percent of a patient’s weekly needs in a solution compounded by Pentec Health’s own in-house Specialty Compounding Pharmacy. Proplete’s low-volume, low-carbohydrate formula is designed to make it easier for clinical staff to manage their patients’ glucose levels and optimizes fluid management, while providing patients with the same necessary nutrients as traditional IDPN treatments. Proplete is also lipid-free, so that patients receive no unwanted calories and do not require triglyceride level checks or lipid clearance. Proplete can be ordered by physician prescription and is available exclusively from Pentec Health, Inc.

About the National Kidney Foundation
The National Kidney Foundation, a major voluntary nonprofit health organization, is dedicated to preventing kidney and urinary tract diseases, improving the health and well being of individuals and families affected by kidney disease and increasing the availability of all organs for transplantation. More information can be found at http://www.kidney.org.

About Pentec Health, Inc.
Pentec Health Inc., headquartered in suburban Philadelphia, is the largest privately held specialty infusion services company in the United States. The Joint Commission has consistently awarded Pentec with a Gold Seal of Approval for their commitment to providing the highest level of patient safety and patient care for renal nutritional and specialty infusion home care services. Pentec’s renal nutrition business specializes in providing patient-specific, proprietary nutritional therapies for patients suffering from chronic kidney disease. Pentec’s specialty infusion business provides in-home care for patients with implanted drug delivery pumps treating severe pain and/or spasticity. Pentec’s award-winning executives are noted for top leadership and giving back to the communities in which they serve. For more information, visit http://www.pentechealth.com.

###
Contact Information
Francine F. Carb
Markitects, Inc.
610-608-0160

Online Web 2.0 Version
You can read the online version of this press release here.