FDA, Medical Device Industry and NORD Announce New Public-Private Partnership

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 3, 2012 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Senators Amy Klobuchar and Al Franken joined Food and Drug Commissioner Margaret Hamburg, MD, NORD President Peter L. Saltonstall and others today in a Capitol Hill event to announce the launch of a new public-private partnership aimed at promoting the development of innovative medical devices for patients.

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The founding members of the new partnership, which will be called the Medical Device Innovation Consortium (MDIC), are LifeScience Alley, a biomedical science trade association; several companies involved in developing medical devices; and NORD (the National Organization for Rare Disorders), in partnership with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

"We at NORD are especially honored to be the first and only patient organization to be invited to be a founding member of the consortium," Saltonstall said in his remarks at the launch today. "Over the past several years, we have sought to forge a productive relationship with the FDA and the medical devices industry because we believe that progress can be made only if all segments of the medical system work together. We hope this public-private partnership will serve as a model for additional collaboration."

The mission of MDIC will be to foster innovation, increase the tools available to evaluate new medical devices to assure that they are safe and effective, and ensure that innovative devices get to patients as quickly as possible while still protecting public health.

Speakers at this morning's Capitol Hill announcement, in addition to Saltonstall, included among others:

- Senator Amy Klobuchar (MN)
- Senator Al Franken (MN)
- FDA Commissioner Margaret Hamburg, MD
- FDA Center for Devices and Radiological He
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