

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**New USP Collaboration Helps  
Health Professionals and Consumers  
Identify High-Quality Dietary Supplements**

**Rockville, Md., January 16, 2007**—USP announced today that it has collaborated with Therapeutic Research Center and *Consumer Reports* to include its USP Verified Mark (see above) in their nationally-recognized online health databases: *Natural Medicines Comprehensive Database* and *ConsumerReportsMedicalGuide.org*. The mark will appear next to dietary supplement products that have passed USP's stringent verification process.

"Health professionals and consumers rely on these well-known databases for providing important information on the quality of medicines and dietary supplements," said Roger L. Williams, M.D., USP executive vice president and CEO.

Inclusion of the distinctive green and gold USP Verified Mark in the databases provides health professionals and consumers with an additional means of identifying supplements that have met USP's rigorous testing requirements for purity, potency, and quality. Currently, consumers can find the mark on over 800 items on pharmacy and retail shelves throughout the United States. Visit [www.uspverified.org](http://www.uspverified.org) for a complete listing of USP Verified products.

When someone sees the USP Verified Mark next to a brand name in the databases or on a label, they can be assured that the product:

- Contains the ingredients listed, in the declared strengths and amounts;
- Does not contain harmful levels of contaminants;
- Will break down and release ingredients in the body within a specified amount of time; and
- Has been made under Good Manufacturing Practices.

The *Natural Medicines Comprehensive Database*, produced by the nonprofit Therapeutic Research Center, is a widely recognized and respected database used by pharmacists, researchers, and doctors for its evidence-based information on natural medicines. The USP Verified Mark appears next to qualifying dietary supplements on both the professional and consumer versions of this database, which can be accessed for a subscription fee at [www.naturaldatabase.com](http://www.naturaldatabase.com)

Therapeutic Research Center shares its content with *ConsumerReportsMedicalGuide.org*, which features the USP Verified Mark next to supplements listed in its Natural Medicines Ratings section. An extension of the well-known *Consumer Reports* product guides created by the nonprofit Consumers Union, this subscription-based database contains product and safety information, including possible interactions, on over 18,000 natural medicines that are available without a prescription.

For more information regarding USP's verification services, visit the USP Verified website at [www.uspverified.org](http://www.uspverified.org) or contact V. Srinivasan, Ph.D., at 301-816-8334 or email [vs@usp.org](mailto:vs@usp.org)

### **USP—Advancing Public Health Since 1820**

The United States Pharmacopeia (USP) is a nonprofit, nongovernmental, standards-setting organization that advances public health and improves patient safety by ensuring good pharmaceutical care. USP standards, which are recognized worldwide, are developed through a unique process of public involvement by volunteers representing pharmacy, medicine and other healthcare professions, as well as science, academia, government, the pharmaceutical industry and consumer organizations. For more information about USP and its standards-setting activities, visit [www.usp.org/aboutUSP/media](http://www.usp.org/aboutUSP/media) .

***Natural Medicines Comprehensive Database*** was created by Therapeutic Research Center, which provides completely independent and objective analysis of drug therapy information and drug therapy advice for medical professionals. Its publications, Prescriber's Letter and Pharmacist's Letter are highly respected by medical professionals. The Natural Medicines Comprehensive Database was created to objectively answer inquiries from medical professionals about natural medicines. Leaders in conventional medicine as well as complementary, alternative, and integrative medicine recognize the Database as the most comprehensive and clinically relevant source on this subject. Launched in 1999, the Natural Medicines Comprehensive Database Professional Version was the first reliable, up-to-date, evidence-based comprehensive reference for physicians, pharmacists and other professionals seeking information about natural medicines.

***Consumer Reports Medical Guide***, a subscription-based online service with rich, continuously updated content for non-subscribers as well, provides information and treatments ratings on over 200 common and chronic health conditions, over 11,000 drug monographs and safety information. ConsumerReportsMedicalGuide.org offers consumers independent, trustworthy, and thorough information on the best treatments and prescription drugs with no advertising influence and includes information from several organizations that are highly regarded by medical professionals, including the BMJ Publishing Group, the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists, and Therapeutic Research Center. Consumers Union has a long history of providing independent information on a variety of health and medical issues through Consumer Reports magazine and the Consumer Reports On Health newsletter.

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