merica's pharmaceutical industry is helping the process of healing the nation in the wake of September 11th. Within hours of the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington, America's pharmaceutical companies responded with medicines and vaccines, supplies for workers and rescuers, and aid for victims and their families.

According to PhRMA, for the first time in history, the country's emergency pharmaceutical stockpile, stored at eight secret sites around the nation, was mobilized

and deployed. Tons of pharmaceuticals and medical supplies including 84,000 I.V. fluid packs, 400 ventilators, and 50,000 doses of tetanus vaccine to protect rescue workers were sent to both New York and Washington.

To date, companies have pledged more than \$80 million in contributions toward disaster relief. Following are just a few examples of how America's pharmaceutical companies responded to these disasters. One company sent 20,000 bottles of eye solution for rescue workers and donated an artificial skin product for burn victims. Another company supplied a disaster module containing wound care and personal-care products to New York's St. Vincent's Hospital. Immediately after the attack another company obtained emergency "compassionate use" approval from the FDA for a burn cream now in Phase III trials and rushed shipment to a burn center in New York.

In addition to products and services, many pharmaceutical companies, too many to list individually, have committed to huge donation programs to help the relief efforts.

Pfizer, which is based in New York City, announced donations totaling more than \$10 million to relief efforts.

The Pfizer Foundation's donation includes \$5 million for various relief funds. In addition, contributions by Pfizer employees to relief organizations related to this emergency will be matched by the company.

"In the more than 150 years Pfizer has been based in New York, no greater



A portion of the advertising dollars from this issue has been donated to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund.

tragedy has affected the people of our city," says Hank McKinnell, Pfizer chairman and CEO. "The attacks in New York and Washington were attacks on us all. Now, we stand ready to do whatever we can to help those in need."

American Home Products is donating \$5 million to the relief effort. Aventis made a \$1 million contribution to the American Red Cross, in addition, pharmaceutical products and vaccines were contributed to immediately support local medical services. Johnson & Johnson pledged a package of \$10 million in financial and product aid to the relief efforts. Pharmacia, together with its Monsanto agricultural subsidiary, has committed to an initial donation of \$1 million. GlaxoSmithKline has donated \$1 million. Novartis announced a \$3 million donation. Abbott Laboratories has committed \$2 million to the relief efforts. TAP Pharmaceutical Products has donated \$500,000.

In the weeks and months ahead, America's pharmaceutical companies and their employees have pledged to continue to join in the great national effort to heal the wounds that America suffered during these tragic events.

> Taren Grom Editor

## Pharma OICE

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