

Fact Sheet: About NCPIE

Established in 1982, the National Council on Patient Information and Education (NCPIE) is a diverse non-profit coalition of health-related organizations working to improve communication about the proper use of medicines. NCPIE develops programs, provides educational resources, issues research reports, and conducts national conferences and multi-media campaigns, such as “Talk About Prescriptions” Month every October.

Recognizing that Americans today are taking more responsibility for their health care decisions, NCPIE’s mission is to stimulate and improve the communication of information on the appropriate use of medicines to consumers and health care professionals. As such, NCPIE’s programs are guided by three common goals:

- ◆ To represent a wide spectrum of organizations serving the public health through educational and advocacy programs;
- ◆ To empower consumers to be more informed about and active in decisions affecting their use of medicines; and
- ◆ To be a catalyst for the development of new, useful, and scientifically accurate information about medicine use that is disseminated in multiple formats to a wide range of audiences.

Besides its focus on the appropriate use of medicines, what makes NCPIE unique is the depth and breadth of its national coalition. Comprised of organizations committed to providing patients with useful and appropriate medicine information, NCPIE’s coalition includes:

- Consumer organizations, patient advocacy groups and voluntary health agencies
- Organizations representing health care professionals and health educators
- Schools of pharmacy, nursing, and dentistry
- Local, state and federal government agencies
- Health-related trade associations
- National and international for-profit companies, including pharmaceutical manufacturers, patient information and database companies, and managed care organizations

NCPIE is a 501(c)(3) organization based in Bethesda, Maryland. Currently, Linda Golodner, president of the National Consumers League, serves as NCPIE’s chairman. More information is available by visiting the NCPIE Web site at www.talkaboutrx.org.

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