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Singapore: PharmaNet/i3, inVentiv Health's clinical segment, and a leading provider of clinical development services to pharmaceutical, biotechnology, generic drug and medical device companies, has won the US Chinese Anti-Cancer Association (USCACA) Distinguished Partner Award for its support of oncology clinical trials and cancer research in China. The USCACA is a non-profit organization that facilitates collaborations among cancer researchers and physicians in the US and China.

The award was presented to PharmaNet/i3 at the USCACA's annual meeting held at the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Annual Meeting in Chicago, June 2, 2012.

"To elevate Chinese clinical research to the leading global level requires close partnership not only among academia, industry sponsors, and regulatory agencies, but also with CROs. CROs like PharmaNet/i3 represent a critical force in implementing and executing high quality clinical research, and can provide unique contributions to facilitate multi-center and multi-disciplinary collaborations," said Dr Li Yan, managing director of the USCACA and head of Infectious Disease, Oncology, Respiratory & Immunology Clinical Development, Emerging Markets, Merck.

Dr Wei Zhang, president of USCACA and professor and director, Cancer Genomics Core Laboratory, M D Anderson Cancer Center, added, "We very much appreciate the PharmaNet/i3 team's strong support of our initiatives in China. It is an exceptional demonstration of social responsibility."

In September 2011, representatives from PharmaNet/i3 conducted a session at the USCACA-Chinese Society for Clinical Oncology (CSCO) joint workshop on early phase oncology clinical trials in China. The session was developed to engage medical professionals and investigators from top cancer hospitals and medical centers in China about the complexities and logistics of early phase oncology clinical trials. Representatives from the China State Food and Drug Agency (SFDA) were present at the workshop and it is anticipated that the evolving regulatory environment will continue to have a potential positive impact on oncology drug development in China.

"We are honored to have been awarded this distinction in the mission to bridge the anti-cancer effort in the US and China," said Dr Dalvir Gill, president, phase II - IV development, PharmaNet/i3. "PharmaNet/i3's oncology project teams have conducted hundreds of regional and global clinical oncology clinical studies involving tens of thousands of patients over the past decade; it was a natural extension of our services to offer our oncology expertise to USCACA to improve cancer research and treatment in China. We are also pleased to receive this award because it affirms inVentiv Health's commitment to support this important growing market."