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RenalEdge GPO Adds Ascend Clinical as a Laboratory Services Partner

Members Gain Access to Comprehensive Laboratory Testing and Support Services

RenalEdge GPO announces a new vendor partnership with **Ascend Clinical**, one of the nation's largest independent clinical laboratories, with more than 30 years of experience serving dialysis providers, nephrology practices, and healthcare organizations nationwide. Through this partnership, RenalEdge GPO members gain access to Ascend's comprehensive laboratory services and specialized testing capabilities, backed by advanced technology and a nationwide operational network designed to support efficient operations, regulatory compliance, and quality patient care.

"Independent dialysis providers face increasing operational, regulatory, and financial pressures while remaining committed to delivering exceptional patient care," said Patti Hunsader, President of Ascend Clinical. "Our partnership with RenalEdge provides members with access to specialized laboratory services, advanced technology, and dedicated support designed specifically for the kidney care community. We are excited to help RenalEdge members improve operational efficiency while maintaining the high standards of care their patients deserve."

Operating from a world-class, 100,000-square-foot facility, Ascend Clinical processes more than 3 million tests monthly and serves approximately 85% of independent dialysis clinics in the U.S. and its territories. Its fully automated, full-service laboratory is equipped with more than 150 instruments and automation modules, providing comprehensive Chemistry, Hematology, Microbiology, Virology, and Environmental testing, including specialized renal, CKD, water and dialysate, AAMI ST108, and Legionella testing for healthcare organizations nationwide.

Through its proprietary LabCheck™ platform, Ascend integrates laboratory ordering, results reporting, and billing with electronic health records (EHRs), helping simplify workflows and laboratory management. Additional operational efficiencies include reduced specimen volume requirements, plasma-based testing that can help minimize redraws, streamlined packaging and logistics, and nationwide courier support. Clear, standardized, and customized reporting further supports practice management, tracking, and trending.

Additional information about this partnership, including enrollment details, will be shared on the RenalEdge website. To learn more, visit www.RenalEdge.com.

About Ascend Clinical

Ascend Clinical is one of the nation's leading independent clinical laboratories, with more than 30 years of experience supporting dialysis providers, nephrology practices, and healthcare organizations nationwide. Processing millions of tests each month, Ascend Clinical combines advanced laboratory technology, extensive clinical expertise, and a commitment to quality and service. Its state-of-the-art laboratory, proprietary LabCheck™ platform, and specialized testing capabilities across clinical diagnostics, kidney care, and healthcare water testing enable Ascend to deliver accurate results and streamlined workflows that support better patient care.

About RenalEdge GPO

RenalEdge GPO is a member-exclusive group purchasing organization operated by Renal Services Exchange (RSE), a wholly owned subsidiary of the Renal Healthcare Association (RHA). RHA represents nearly 11% of U.S. dialysis facilities and serves approximately 60,000 patients nationwide. RenalEdge delivers transparent, trusted, and value-driven purchasing solutions to help independent dialysis providers thrive. www.RenalEdge.com