

WorldCare Limited Appoints James Thrall, M.D., Chairman of the Board.

Leading Radiologist Joins International Gateway to Personalized Medical Second Opinions

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Nov. 17 /PRNewswire/ -- WorldCare Limited, a facilitator of Internet-empowered, personal medical second opinions, today announced the appointment of James H. Thrall, M.D., to Chairman of the Board. Dr. Thrall continues to maintain his positions as both the Radiologist-in-Chief at Massachusetts General Hospital and the Juan M. Taveras Professor of Radiology at Harvard Medical School.

"Leading specialist and subspecialist physicians are at the core of our medical consultation process. They set standards and render professional services that animate every aspect of our business," said Nasser Menhall, CEO of WorldCare. "James Thrall was the logical choice for Chairman of the Board. In addition to his unparalleled expertise in the development of long-distance medical consultation systems, he is a skilled, academic clinician. As Chairman of the International Medicine Committee of Massachusetts General Hospital, he possesses a thorough understanding of the international health care market place and the specialized needs of international patients and physicians. Dr. Thrall's global vision will be instrumental in expanding WorldCare's model healthcare delivery system to providers, insurers, businesses and government entities in Latin America, the Far East, Eastern Europe and other regions throughout the world."

Dr. Thrall has been involved in WorldCare since its inception. He will now take a more active role in developing WorldCare's strategic direction and spearheading future initiatives. Dr. Thrall's duties will include overseeing the expansion and implementation of new WorldCare services to the global healthcare community via the Internet, and acting as a liaison between WorldCare and the WorldCare Consortium, an alliance of internationally recognized U.S. medical centers.

"WorldCare's ability to facilitate medical second opinions through the Internet offers patients and physicians new alternatives in diagnosis, treatment and care," Thrall said. "The opportunity to collaborate with colleagues abroad and to participate in such a promising venture is something I look forward to with great anticipation."

Dr. Thrall is the first and only physician to hold both the Radiologist-In-Chief position at Massachusetts General Hospital and the Juan M. Taveras Professorship of Radiology at Harvard Medical School, receiving both appointments in 1988. Prior to these appointments, Dr. Thrall occupied a number of prestigious medical positions. Throughout the 1980's Dr. Thrall was a staff member of the Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, where he served as the Chairman of the Department of Diagnostic Radiology, the Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Medical Group and as a Physician Trustee of the Henry Ford Health Care Corporation. Earlier in his career he was a Professor of Internal Medicine at the University of Michigan and the Assistant Chief of Nuclear Medicine at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

WorldCare provides the means for attending physicians anywhere in the world to correspond with top U.S. specialists. WorldCare utilizes a range of telecommunications systems, including the Internet, to transmit medical records. The second opinion is provided by a medical specialist from WorldCare's Consortium of hospitals to a patient's personal physician.

The WorldCare Consortium includes The Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Duke University Hospital and Health System, Johns Hopkins Medicine, and Partners HealthCare System, Inc., representing Massachusetts General Hospital, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Dana-Farber/Partners Cancer Care and other leading teaching hospitals of Harvard Medical School. Electronic communication with the specialists and subspecialists who staff these institutions includes consultation regarding transmitted X-ray, CT, MRI, Ultrasound and other sophisticated, diagnostic information. Consultations are initiated by local attending physicians for the ultimate reassurance, comfort and benefit of the patient.

About WorldCare Limited

WorldCare Limited facilitates the delivery of highly specialized and personalized electronic second medical opinions from the best medical centers in North America to local attending physicians for the benefit of their patients. From the transmission of the patient's record, made possible by Internet-empowered telecommunications technologies, to the collaborative process by which the distant specialist will examine the case, WorldCare is advancing the science of second opinion health care. These second opinions are provided by the WorldCare Consortium, which includes The Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Duke University Hospital and Health System, Johns Hopkins Medicine and Partners HealthCare System, Inc., representing Massachusetts General Hospital, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Dana-Farber/Partners Cancer Care and other leading teaching hospitals of Harvard Medical School. WorldCare's second medical opinions are covered by special programs sponsored by life and health insurance carriers throughout the world. Founded in 1992 through a joint effort with Massachusetts General Hospital, WorldCare maintains co-headquarters in Cambridge, Massachusetts and Paris, France, with regional offices in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Mexico City, Mexico and Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Source: WorldCare Limited

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