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**Drug Costs Will Rise as FTC Approves Medco/Express Scripts Mega-Merger**  
*Independent Pharmacists Denounce Deal as License to Price-Gouge the Consumer*

April 2, 2012 –FTC approval of a merger between two of the nation’s largest pharmacy benefits managers (PBMs), Express Scripts Inc. and Medco Health Solutions Inc., will only add to the rising costs of prescription drugs, according to a group of independent pharmacists.

Following FTC approval of the merger, Dave Marley, President of Pharmacists United for Truth and Transparency, issued the following statement:

“The FTC has given the PBMs the green light to consolidate their outsized power and continue driving up the costs of prescription drugs. The decision will negatively impact plan sponsors that contract with PBMs and consumers looking for affordable medication.

Instead of facilitating collusion between the PBMs, we should take a careful look at existing PBM practices and the mark-up prices they charge clients for prescription drugs. Large PBMs often claim they are transparent with clients, then mark-up drug costs. They line their pockets with profits while plans sponsors and consumers pay the price.”

**PHARMACISTS UNITED FOR TRUTH AND TRANSPARENCY AS A RESOURCE TO MEDIA**

Pharmacists United for Truth and Transparency (PUTT) is an independent watchdog organization dedicated to exposing the role Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs) play in driving up prescription drug costs for consumers and employers. PUTT is a growing coalition of independent pharmacists and pharmacy owners and a resource for employers, policy makers and members of the media. It is a not-for-profit organization funded by individual members, not corporations or other special interest groups. For more information, visit [TruthRx.org](http://TruthRx.org)

To schedule an interview with Dave Marley, President of Pharmacists United for Truth and Transparency, please contact me at (202) 789 7751.

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