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**RxPATROL™ Expands Beyond Prescription Medication Robberies to Include
Theft of Over-the-Counter Products**

Data Tracking System Offers Comprehensive Approach to Combating Pharmacy Theft

San Diego, CA – April 7, 2004 – FBI LEEDA announced today the expansion of its pharmacy theft reporting and tracking capabilities through RxPATROL™ (Pattern Analysis Tracking Robberies and Other Losses) to include loss of over-the-counter (OTC) and related “front-of-store” products from pharmacies at their 13th Annual Executive Training Conference.

“OTC theft costs the pharmacy trade billions of dollars annually in stolen product and prevention expenses,” said Bruce Roberts, R.Ph., Executive Vice President and CEO, National Community Pharmacists Association. “This expanded service, provided at no cost, can help pharmacists gain insights into how to better protect their practices.”

RxPATROL is an information clearinghouse that was originally designed to collect, analyze, and share information on pharmacy robberies, burglaries, and theft of prescription medications. The system is intended to help pharmacists guard against potential theft, and assist law enforcement in its efforts to apprehend and prosecute pharmacy robbers. RxPATROL was conceived, developed, and funded by Purdue Pharma L.P., a pharmaceutical company headquartered in Stamford, CT.

“Pharmacy theft is a serious crime – and one that’s on the rise,” said John McGowan, President, FBI-LEEDA. “We know that law enforcement is serious about cracking down on pharmacy crime based on the reception that RxPATROL has received since its launch last June. There have been more than 300 theft reports filed with the system to date, and we anticipate that this number will grow with the program’s expanded capabilities.”

According to recent data, shoplifting is the most common criminal activity reported by pharmacies. About 60 percent of independent and chain pharmacies are victimized in a two-year period. Pharmacists also cite shoplifting as a crime on the rise, with 35 percent of independent pharmacies and 44 percent of chains saying that shoplifting incidence is increasing.¹

“The expansion of RxPATROL to cover OTC theft provides a more comprehensive way for pharmacists and law enforcement to work together to solve pharmacy crime,” said Tom Kubic, Executive Director, Pharmaceutical Security Institute. “The addition of the OTC category will allow us to use the information that pharmacists supply to help solve crimes and identify pharmacy theft trends – not only behind the counter, but in the front of the store as well.”

Top OTC products stolen include personal testing items (such as glucose test strips and home pregnancy tests), contraceptives, and products containing pseudoephedrine, a key raw ingredient for the clandestine manufacture of methamphetamine.²

Categories in the RxPATROL theft report on www.rxpatrol.org now include sections for feminine care, family planning, oral products, GI, analgesics, vitamins, cosmetics, film, batteries, razor blades, and personal testing items.

Using a state-of-the-art software program, RxPATROL collects, collates, and analyzes information from pharmacy theft reports across the country. The data and analyses, which can incorporate streaming video and closed-circuit television photos, are disseminated to law enforcement agencies for action as they deem appropriate. Additionally, RxPATROL conducts vulnerability assessments using the information gathered on pharmacy theft patterns to identify potential weaknesses and provide suggestions as to what pharmacies can do to minimize their risk to theft-related crime.

The data collected also reveals the types of security devices (e.g., alarms, closed circuit television cameras, television monitors, reinforced doors, etc.) that are most effective in deterring burglaries and robberies.

RxPATROL was launched in June 2003 through a partnership that included the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA), National Association of Drug Diversion Investigators (NADDI), and Pharmaceutical Security Institute. The FBI’s Law Enforcement Executive Development Association (FBI-LEEDA) later joined these organizations in posting the RxPATROL Pharmacy Theft Report on its Web site (www.leedafbi.org) as well as on the RxPATROL Web site (www.rxpatrol.org). For more information, visit www.rxpatrol.org.

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¹ Carol Ukens. CRIME TIME. *Drug Topics* 2002;6:35.

² Ibid.