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news release

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Hosford named pharmacy director

DES MOINES, IA (December 22, 2009) – Matt Hosford, RPH, has been named director of pharmacy for Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield.

Hosford, a clinical pharmacist, joined Wellmark in 2007. He previously served as interim director of pharmacy operations. In his new role, he will lead both the clinical and operational facets of Wellmark's pharmacy program, including the processing of pharmacy claims, and efforts to manage rising drug cost trends.

"Matt's industry experience, coupled with his knowledge of pharmacy claims management, makes him an excellent choice to lead our pharmacy operations," said Paul Karazija, M.D., Wellmark's chief medical officer.

Hosford is also active in the U.S. Army Reserve, currently serving in the rank of major as a combat support officer. A veteran of the Iraq War, he was twice awarded the Bronze Star, the nation's third highest award for valor during combat.

Hosford holds a pharmacy degree from Drake University in Des Moines.

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