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**MIT, Harvard and Pfizer, Inc., Launch Tri-lingual Web-based Course for Delivery to Clinical Researchers in China.**

Cambridge, MA — May 7, 2004 — On April 12, 2004, representatives from MIT, Pfizer, Inc. and the People's Republic of China State Food and Drug Administration (SFDA) came together to launch a web-based course called "Good Practices in Clinical Research" (GCP) as partial fulfillment of the certification program required of all clinical researchers in China.

Through a series of video lectures and case studies, clinical researchers will be instructed on research processes, statistical methodology and journal publication procedures as set by the International Conference on Harmonisation. Originally created in English and Spanish, this latest version in Mandarin Chinese has the capacity to reach vast numbers of Chinese clinical researchers and is the result of a year long collaboration between Pfizer, Inc., MIT-Harvard Division of Health Sciences and Technology (HST), MIT Learning International Networks Consortium (LINC) and Flamingdo LTD.

The course was originally offered as a weeklong seminar in Latin America. Based on its overwhelming popularity there and recognizing the limitless possibilities of the internet, Dr. Robert H. Rubin (HST) and Dr. Honorio Silva (Pfizer, Inc.) approached Prof. Richard C. Larson, then-director of MIT's Center for Advanced Educational Services (CAES) to create an on-line course with the objective of reaching "thousands of practicing clinicians via Internet and computer technology" throughout the world.

"The GCP web course is an exemplary collaboration among science, technology and education with far-reaching benefit around the world," said Professor Larson. He adds, "...GCP dovetails very well with LINC's mission of leveraging new technologies to share quality education with emerging regions of the world."

The GCP course in English and Spanish is due to launch in June of 2004 and will be available free of charge to an international community of clinical researchers.

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