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January 28, 2004, 10:00 a.m.

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**NEW STUDY: HEALTH BENEFITS WORTH UP TO THREE TIMES
MORE THAN MONEY INVESTED**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Over the past 20 years, each additional dollar spent on health care services has produced \$2.40 to \$3.00 in tangible gains in health care, according to a landmark new study released today by *The Value Group*, a coalition of seven of the nation’s leading health organizations.

The report, entitled *The Value of Investment in Health Care: Better Care, Better Lives*, reveals that without this investment, in the year 2000 alone, there would have been 470,000 more deaths, 2.3 million more people with disabilities, and 206 million more days spent in the hospital.

“This unprecedented study provides strong evidence that the value generated by investments in health care greatly outweighs the costs,” said Bryan Luce, MEDTAP International Chairman and director of the study.

As lawmakers address rising health care costs, this groundbreaking study provides evidence on a critical issue frequently missing from the discussion: the value of our increasing investment in health care.

“The continuing debate in Congress and the states over spending on health care must consider the important benefits to society and the value of each dollar spent,” noted Luce at a press conference today at the National Press Club. “Policymakers, payers, and other health care providers must work together to ensure that discussions focus on the value of investment in health care, not simply the cost.”

Study Results

The report – a compilation of published findings from the top peer-reviewed journals in health and medicine supplemented with original analysis of national data – looks at the value of investment from multiple angles. It documents the dynamic advances in health, lifespan and quality of life due to investments in health care. Specifically, since 1980:

- Annual death rates declined 16%
- Life expectancy from birth increased by more than three years
- Disability rates for seniors fell 25%
- Number of days Americans spent in the hospital fell 56%

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The study also indicates that the improvements in outcomes for specific diseases have been even more striking:

- Mortality from heart attacks has been cut nearly in half
- Stroke mortality has been cut by more than a third
- Diabetes can now be managed to dramatically reduce complications such as blindness, kidney failure, stroke, and death
- Breast cancer mortality has been cut by more than 20%

The report was compiled for *The Value Group* by MEDTAP International, Inc. in collaboration with researchers at Research Triangle Institute and Duke University. It marks the first collaboration by members of the group, which consists of senior-level representatives from:

- Advanced Medical Technology Association (AdvaMed)
- American College of Cardiology (ACC)
- American Hospital Association (AHA)
- Federation of American Hospitals (FAH)
- Healthcare Leadership Council (HLC)
- National Pharmaceutical Council (NPC)
- Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA)

Copies of the report are available online at <http://www.medtap.com>

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