



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## DeCare Dental to Become Part of WellPoint

*DeCare remains in Eagan, continues serving Delta Dental of Minnesota, while creating greater opportunities to improve the health of consumers by providing innovative tools and health information.*

**(EAGAN, Minn.) April 29, 2008** — DeCare Dental, the administrator for Delta Dental of Minnesota and nine other dental brands worldwide, announced today that it has been acquired by WellPoint, Inc. (NYSE:WLP), the nation's largest health benefits provider.

“DeCare is excited to join a company with a great reputation and opportunities,” said Michael Walsh, President and CEO of DeCare Dental. “Our employees will be able to serve a much larger population of dental and medical members, executing on our mission to serve the oral health needs of our communities.”

DeCare will remain headquartered in Eagan, Minnesota. Its current management team and organization structure will remain intact, with Mike Walsh continuing to lead their operations.

DeCare will continue to serve 4 million dental members in 22,000 employer groups through existing contracts and partnerships that include BlueCross BlueShield of Minnesota, Medica, Wellmark, Securian Financial Group and other leaders in the health care and insurance industry. These partners include WellPoint, whose New York dental business has been administered by DeCare Dental since 2000.

“The expanded relationship with WellPoint is a natural continuation of several years of significant growth at DeCare, which increased revenue under management from \$680 million in 2001 to more than \$1 billion today,” said Walsh. “This growth was necessary and intentional in a strategic model based on economies of scale in a low-margin, high-volume business. Delta Dental of Minnesota has benefited from this strategy – and will continue to benefit – due to the efficiencies generated by DeCare’s ability to spread Minnesota’s fixed costs across a global business platform.”

The acquisition of DeCare Dental enhances WellPoint's ability to offer dental products that balance affordability and access, drawing upon DeCare Dental's expertise in dental analytics and operations.

"The acquisition of DeCare Dental builds upon a core focus of WellPoint which is to continually provide our members with innovative and industry-leading products," said Angela F. Braly, president and CEO of WellPoint. "DeCare Dental has clearly emerged as a leader in providing dental benefit management. Their state-of-the-art dental systems, analytical capabilities and exceptional management team will enhance WellPoint's ability to provide affordable, high-quality dental benefits to our members nationwide."

"The research WellPoint has studied shows a linkage between poor oral health and serious medical conditions such as cardiovascular disease and diabetes," said Dennis Casey, President and CEO of WellPoint's UniCare and Specialty businesses. "An integrated health benefits plan that includes medical and dental coverage provides consumers with important preventative services that focus on overall well-being and good health."

Upon completion of the acquisition, the combined organization will become one of the largest dental benefits administrators in the country with significant growth opportunities nationwide. DeCare will continue to service its current clients while integrating its team and services with WellPoint's current dental organization. The combination of WellPoint and DeCare Dental creates even greater opportunities to improve health by providing innovative tools and information.

DeCare Dental currently serves 10 dental plans. DeCare Dental also operates DeCare Dental Systems Ireland (DSI), which offers custom enterprise software solutions, e-business applications and application performance tuning and is also the first American company to offer dental benefits in Ireland as Vhi DeCare Dental Dental.

### **About WellPoint, Inc.**

WellPoint's mission is to improve the lives of the people it serves and the health of its communities. WellPoint, Inc. is the largest health benefits company in terms of commercial membership in the United States. Through its nationwide networks, the company delivers a number of leading health benefit solutions through a broad portfolio of integrated health care plans and related services, along with a wide range of specialty products such as life and disability insurance benefits, pharmacy benefit management, dental, vision, behavioral health benefit services, as well as long term care insurance and flexible spending accounts. Headquartered in Indianapolis, Indiana, WellPoint is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association and serves its members as the Blue Cross licensee for California; the Blue Cross and Blue Shield licensee for Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Missouri (excluding 30 counties in the Kansas City area), Nevada, New Hampshire, New York (as Blue Cross Blue Shield in 10 New York City metropolitan and surrounding counties and as Blue Cross or Blue Cross Blue Shield in selected upstate counties only), Ohio, Virginia (excluding the Northern Virginia suburbs of Washington, D.C.), Wisconsin; and through UniCare. Additional information about WellPoint is available at [www.wellpoint.com](http://www.wellpoint.com).

## **About DeCare Dental**

With nearly 40 years of proven success, the DeCare Dental family of companies is a leading dental benefits management group that oversees more than \$1 billion in managed revenues, serving 4 million individuals in 22,000 employer groups including Fortune 500 corporations, small businesses, non-profits and government entities in the United States and overseas. Through its affiliates and partners, DeCare is active in all major markets across the United States and also has operations in Europe. Focused on global leadership in dental benefits management, DeCare Dental sets the standard for innovation, quality, service and results. For more information on DeCare Dental, visit [www.decare.com](http://www.decare.com) or call (toll-free) 800-371-6561.

**Delta Dental of Minnesota (“DDMN”) is an authorized licensee of Delta Dental Plans Association, Chicago IL (“DDPA”). “Delta Dental® ” is a registered trademark of DDPA. DeCare International (“DeCare”) is an authorized affiliate of DDMN. All other business entities and organizations named or identified in this document are not authorized licensees of DDPA. Nothing contained in this statement or set forth in this document is meant in any way to imply or suggest that any of the products or services of DeCare or any other business entity or organizations named or identified in this document and not licensed by DDPA are in any way sponsored, approved, endorsed or recommended by DDPA.**

## **SAFE HARBOR STATEMENT UNDER THE PRIVATE SECURITIES LITIGATION REFORM ACT OF 1995**

This press release contains certain forward-looking information about WellPoint, Inc. (“WellPoint”) that is intended to be covered by the safe harbor for “forward-looking statements” provided by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements are statements that are not historical facts. Words such as “expect(s)”, “feel(s)”, “believe(s)”, “will”, “may”, “anticipate(s)” and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements include, but are not limited to, financial projections and estimates and their underlying assumptions; statements regarding plans, objectives and expectations with respect to future operations, products and services; and statements regarding future performance. Such statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties, many of which are difficult to predict and generally beyond the control of WellPoint, that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in, or implied or projected by, the forward-looking information and statements. These risks and uncertainties include: those discussed and identified in public filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) made by WellPoint; trends in health care costs and utilization rates; our ability to secure sufficient premium rate increases; competitor pricing below market trends of increasing costs; increased government regulation of health benefits, managed care and pharmacy benefit management operations; risks and uncertainties regarding the Medicare Part D Prescription Drug benefits program, including potential uncollectability of receivables resulting from processing and/or verifying enrollment (including facilitated enrollment), inadequacy of underwriting assumptions, inability to receive and process information, uncollectability of premium from members, increased pharmaceutical costs, and the underlying seasonality of the business; significant acquisitions or divestitures by major competitors; introduction and utilization of new prescription drugs and technology; a

downgrade in our financial strength ratings; litigation and investigations targeted at health benefits companies and our ability to resolve litigation and investigations within estimates; our ability to contract with providers consistent with past practice; other potential uses of cash in the future that present attractive alternatives to share repurchases; our ability to achieve expected synergies and operating efficiencies in the WellChoice, Inc. acquisition within the expected time frames or at all, and to successfully integrate our operations; our ability to meet expectations regarding repurchases of shares of our common stock; future bio-terrorist activity or other potential public health epidemics; and general economic downturns. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements that speak only as of the date hereof. WellPoint does not undertake any obligation to republish revised forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date hereof or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events. Readers are also urged to carefully review and consider the various disclosures in WellPoint's various SEC reports, including but not limited to WellPoint's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006 and its Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the reporting periods in 2007.

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