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**The Institute for Advanced Clinical Trials for Children
Welcomes Bayer as Newest Annual Member**

Rockville, MD, April 10, 2019 – The Institute for Advanced Clinical Trials for Children today welcomes Bayer as its newest Annual Member. I-ACT is a non-profit organization focused on improving the quality, speed and efficiency of global pediatric studies to address the gap in evidence on the best use of therapeutics in children.

“This is an important and exciting time for pediatric research, as awareness of the need for improved pediatric clinical trials gains traction and stakeholders work together to address the challenge,” said Laura Gordon, CEO of I-ACT for Children. “Bayer’s membership in I-ACT for Children underscores its commitment to the enhanced development of pediatric medicines. Every child with a medical need deserves the best chance possible – and that chance depends on a dedication to innovation, quality and urgency in advancing medical therapies specifically for children.”

Pediatric clinical trials face a variety of unique hurdles. More than 60 percent of pediatric clinical trials stall and 40 percent fail. As a result, it takes an average of nine years for an adult therapy to secure pediatric labeling. Barriers to efficient, successful pediatric trials include issues with trial designs that haven’t been properly adapted for children, difficulty identifying enough qualified patients and until recently, lack of a dedicated clinical trial infrastructure that can be quickly activated when a therapy or device is ready for testing.

I-ACT for Children was created to identify and find solutions for these and other critical barriers. It has built a network of pediatric clinical trial sites that will share common training tools and best practices and are coordinated under the I-ACT for Children umbrella. Study and site feasibility can be assessed through real world data analysis to determine factors such as which sites have enough patients with a given disease or condition to enroll in a trial. A quality improvement system will be launched this year within the site network to measure and track each site’s ability to speed start-up and enrollment time, retain patients in a trial and reduce time to completion.

I-ACT for Children also works with its members to introduce innovative study designs that produce advances such as reducing sample size and adapting study endpoints to better reflect the pediatric population.

About the I-ACT for Children

I-ACT for Children is a 501(c)3 that serves as a neutral and independent organization on behalf of children everywhere, bringing a dedicated voice to the advancement of new medicines and devices needed now and in the future. Its work is to engage public and private stakeholders through research and education to ensure that healthcare for children is continually improved by enhancing the awareness of, support for and success of pediatric clinical trials.

To learn more about I-ACT, visit www.iactc.org

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