

NEWS RELEASE

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Fruth Pharmacy Increases Efforts in Battle against Meth

POINT PLEASANT, W.Va. (May 6, 2013) – Fruth Pharmacy announced their commitment to replace medications containing Pseudoephedrine (PSE), a drug used in the manufacture of methamphetamines (meth), with a new product known as Nexafed®. Currently, medications with 30 mg of PSE will be replaced with other mg amounts being replaced as soon as possible.

Nexafed delivers the same efficacy as other leading pseudoephedrine (PSE) products—such as Sudafed®—by temporarily relieving nasal congestion due to the common cold, hay fever or other upper respiratory allergies. But it does even more. Patented Impede® technology disrupts the extraction and conversion of PSE to meth.



Example of a Nexafed box. Nexafed will soon replace many PSE products in Fruth Pharmacy in an effort to help cut down meth production.

With the replacement of older generation PSE products with Nexafed, Fruth takes an important step forward combating meth abuse in the communities it serves while still providing cold and allergy sufferers with a safe and effective treatment. By making only Nexafed available, patients still get the relief they need, but those seeking PSE for meth production will have to look elsewhere. This helps make Fruth Pharmacies, and the communities they serve, safer.

“Fruth Pharmacy has long been an advocate in the fight against methamphetamine production,” replied Lynne Fruth, President and Chairman of the Board for Fruth Pharmacy, when asked about the decision to carry Nexafed®. “We were excited about the NPLeX system and Nexafed® is another tool we are glad to have.”

In 2006, to combat meth production, the government created daily sales limits and 30 day purchases limits of PSE products. Fruth also implemented the NPLeX system for real-time

electronic monitoring of sales of medications with PSE. Many pharmacists and law enforcement officials have had success with the NPLeX system. Nexafed® is one more tool to assist in slowing down meth production.

“The statistics for meth labs in West Virginia alone is staggering,” stated Tim Weber, Director of Pharmacy Administration and Procurement for Fruth Pharmacy. “If there’s a way to stop people from using medications sold in our pharmacies to produce meth, then we are interested.”

Meth abuse hurts families and communities, and is also very costly. If a pharmacy sells 10 boxes of PSE products, this potentially yields 77 grams of meth. This could cost a community an estimated \$37,681. If every pharmacy in the state, sold only 10 boxes of PSE products that were used in meth production – it is estimated the state would pay \$24,040,872 in meth cleanup costs. (www.nexafed.com/e-detail).

Fruth Pharmacy has served customers for over 60 years in both Ohio and West Virginia. Fruth Pharmacy has 27 store locations and is a full service pharmacy. You can learn more about Fruth Pharmacy and its efforts to combat meth production at www.fruthpharmacy.com. For more information about Nexafed, please visit www.nexafed.com.