



## **Nextrials Co-Founder to Discuss Benefits of Integrating Electronic Healthcare and Clinical Trial Data**

*Nextrials' Anthony J. Costello to speak at upcoming ExL Pharma conference*

**San Ramon, CA – September 6, 2006** – Anthony J. Costello, co-founder and vice president of Nextrials, Inc. and vice chairman for the Society for Clinical Data Management (SCDM), will be a discussion panelist for ExL Pharma's Second Annual Merging Electronic Health Records (EHR) and Electronic Data Capture (EDC) Conference on September 18-19 in Washington, DC. In a session entitled "The Benefits and Advantages," Costello and other industry experts will discuss the merits of merging EHR and EDC, which include a potential reduction in medical errors and an increase in data quality.

"The pharmaceutical industry has made great progress in its adoption of paperless research data collection applications such as Nextrials' Prism," Costello said. "An obvious next step is to work toward integrating EHR and EDC programs to create a patient clinical trail profile based partly on data already captured in hospital EHR systems. Standards groups, regulators and the biopharma industry are using conferences like this one to share information and accelerate movement toward faster drug development timelines. There's a lot of work between here and there, but the potential benefits for patient safety and data quality make it worth engaging in the effort."

Those interested in learning more about the topic or in attending the conference can contact ExL Pharma at 866-247-9597 or visit [www.exlpharma.com](http://www.exlpharma.com).

### **About Nextrials, Inc.**

Founded by pharmaceutical researchers in 1999, Nextrials *Innovates for Life*™ by offering today's most novel products and services for speeding the delivery of life-saving drugs and medical devices to market. Prism®, its award-winning Electronic Data

Capture (EDC) solution, has been used at over 500 research sites to streamline the initiation and management of clinical trials. The company is headquartered in the San Francisco Bay area. For more information, visit [www.nextrials.com](http://www.nextrials.com) or call 925-355-3000. A podcast by co-founder Anthony J. Costello on innovative technologies for clinical research is also available at <http://pharmavoices.com/podcasts>.

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