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**For Immediate Release** 

## NAVARRO OFFERS SEASONAL FLU SHOTS FOR INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES AND EMPLOYER GROUPS THROUGH 29 PHARMACY LOCATIONS IN MIAMI

CERTIFIED REGISTERED PHARMACISTS TO PROVIDE IMMUNIZATIONS

Miami, FL – August 29, 2011 – Navarro Discount Pharmacy, the largest Hispanic-owned pharmacy chain in the U.S. and an MBF Healthcare portfolio company, is helping the community stay healthy by offering seasonal flu shots for individuals, families and employer groups.

"The seasonal flu vaccine, which protects against the changed H3N2 seasonal flu, is now available at each of our locations – no appointment needed," said Albert Garcia, R.Ph., M.H.L., Executive Vice President – Pharmacy, Navarro Discount Pharmacy. "Our certified pharmacists have undergone extensive training and are extremely knowledgeable about viruses common today, their symptoms and the flu vaccine." The 2011-2012 seasonal flu vaccine protects against three different flu viruses: the H3N2 virus, the influenza B virus and the H1N1 virus. With over 80 trained clinical staff comprised of Florida Registered Pharmacists, Navarro Discount Pharmacy has been certified for immunization through the Florida Board of Pharmacy.

Effective immediately, flu shots are available at all Navarro store locations during Pharmacy Hours of Operation, on a walk-in basis or by appointment for \$25 per shot (competitor's prices will be matched). Flu shot recipients receive \$100 in coupon savings as well as Navarro's 'Flu Guarantee' which reimburses up to the out-of-pocket expense for the cost of the flu shot, with a Navarro pharmacy credit toward the purchase of the antiviral prescription medication (Tamiflu or Relenza – Rx required). Appointments may also be scheduled at 1-866-Navarro (628-2776) or by visiting www.navarro.com.

Most insurance providers cover the cost of flu shots for employees. "Offering employees the opportunity of getting their flu shot at the workplace increases productivity and adds to the company's bottom line in the form of reduced sick leave," added Garcia. To verify coverage, flu shot recipients should contact their insurance provider in advance or contact your local Navarro Pharmacist.

The CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted for 'universal" flu vaccination in the U.S. to expand protection against the flu to more people. According to the CDC, on average 5% to 20% of the U.S. population gets the flu; more than 200,000 people are hospitalized every year from seasonal flu-related complications and seasonal influenza kills an estimated 36,000 people in the U.S. each year. Older people age 65 or older, young children, pregnant women, and people with certain medical conditions, are at high risk for serious flu complications.

Seasonal influenza, commonly called "the flu" is caused by influenza viruses, which infect the respiratory tract (i.e., the nose, throat, lungs). Unlike many other viral respiratory infections, such as the common cold, the flu can cause severe illness and life-threatening complications in many people. The best way to prevent seasonal flu is by getting a seasonal flu vaccination each year. For more information on flu vaccination guidelines, restrictions and side effects, contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at 1-800-232-4626 or visit www.cdc.gov/vaccines/.

Headquartered in Miami, Navarro Discount Pharmacy was founded in Havana, Cuba in 1940 and opened its first store in the U.S. in 1961. With 29 existing store locations, plus two under construction in Homestead and Pembroke Pines, Navarro is the largest Hispanic-owned drugstore chain in the U.S. As a community pharmacy, the stores cater to Hispanic and ethnic markets and further differentiate themselves by offering many products and services that are not found in traditional drugstores such as wireless phones, designer fragrances, a large assortment of OTC and vitamins/supplements and in-store health screenings as part their Wellness Wednesday program. For more information, visit www.navarro.com.

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