



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **ZIEGLER ADVISES SYMPHONY CLINICAL RESEARCH ON ITS ACQUISITION BY ICON PLC**

**CHICAGO, IL – FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1** – Ziegler, a specialty investment bank, is pleased to announce its role as the exclusive financial advisor to [Symphony Clinical Research](#) (Symphony) on its recent acquisition by [ICON plc](#), a global contract research organization (CRO) based in Dublin, Ireland.

Headquartered in Vernon Hills, Illinois, Symphony is a pioneer in the field of in-home clinical research study services in the fields of pharma services and drug development. In partnership with its Symphony Global Alliance<sup>SM</sup> Network, Symphony collaborates with clinicians, clinical research sites, pharmaceutical companies, and CROs to bring clinical trial visits directly to the patient. These direct-to-patient, in-home services assist in patient recruitment and patient retention, key factors in reducing the time and cost of bringing innovative and life-improving therapies to market.

Symphony's global footprint, providing services in North America, Central America, South America, Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and the Asia / Pacific region, will be highly complementary to ICON's outsourced development and commercialization services to pharmaceutical, biotechnology, medical device, and government and public health organizations around the world.

“We are so proud of the work we have done at Symphony to develop a platform that can better meet the patient’s needs, while maintaining the critical processes and controls that are so vital to drug development,” stated Nicki M. Norris, CEO of Symphony. “We are excited to partner with ICON in order to take our services to an even broader audience, and we are delighted with the contribution that Ziegler made to our team of advisors.”

Added Laurie Streling, COO / CFO of Symphony: “I couldn’t imagine a better partner for the

Symphony team or a better way to advance our mission to improve patients' lives by accelerating R&D decisions. ICON's philosophy of focusing innovation on reducing time and cost, together with increasing the quality of clinical trials, is an excellent fit for the culture we have developed at Symphony."

[Patrick Walsh](#), Director in Ziegler's Healthcare Corporate Finance Practice and lead banker on the Symphony transaction commented, "Symphony is a textbook example of the industry's effort to increase focus on the patient, and to make clinical trials less burdensome on the individual and less expensive for the healthcare systems of the world. It has been a privilege to work with Nicki and Laurie, and we are thrilled about the outcome."

Ziegler's Corporate Finance team is focused on delivering best-in-class advisory and financing solutions for companies and organizations across the healthcare industry. In our core practice areas of healthcare services, information technology, hospitals and senior living, Ziegler is one of the most active M&A firms offering innovative sell-side, buy-side, recapitalization/restructuring, equity private placement and strategic partnering services.

For more information about Ziegler, please visit us at [www.ziegler.com](http://www.ziegler.com).

#### **About Ziegler:**

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