



## Flexible Spending Accounts and Your Business—What Does it Mean?

June 2011— The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act that became effective in January 2011 requires that FSA participants obtain a prescription for OTCs to be covered by flexible spending accounts. The impact of this regulation has been felt at many levels within local communities. Are the physicians in your community being bombarded? Is this limitation really reducing health care cost or simply shifting the financial burden from the payer to the patient? Or transferring the workload from the payer to the provider? Has your pharmacy felt the impact?

According to a [Nielsen study](#) dated December 2010, approximately 19 million U.S. households participate in FSA plans through their employers. Fifty two percent of this sector reported using their FSA cards for OTC medicines in 2010. Over 15 million households with a FSA plan used their cards to cover prescription drug cost at their local pharmacy.

The impact of FSA cards on retail pharmacy continues to be debated. New legislation introduced into the U.S. House of Representative and Senate in February 2011 could reverse this FSA ruling. The primary consideration for every business owner is retention of their customer base. If the customer cannot conveniently use their FSA resources for their local pharmacy purchases, they may spend their dollars elsewhere. This decision creates a loss for both the customer and the pharmacy and ultimately impacts patient outcomes.

### ***PPSC Option for Your Business...***

PPSC has partnered with flexTRAX Point of Sale to provide our membership an affordable and efficient option for the FSA customers.

The first of its kind, the flexTRAX system is IIAS compliant for accepting FSA cards and PA-DSS certified for meeting PCI standards. FlexTRAX was designed to provide independent pharmacies complete solutions for success in a competitive market with the limited investment. Reporting tools streamline business operations, accounting, and sales and inventory management. Hassle-free automation and unlimited catalog imports ensure you have the most up-to-date information for your customers and your business.

### **flexTRAX features:**

- Detailed reporting tools
- Catalog import capabilities
- Clerk Codes
- Multi-register management
- Electronic signature capture

For information on flexTRAX Point of Sale and the discounts available with your PPSC membership, please contact a KeyCentrix representative at 800.444.8486 or email [sales@keycentrix.com](mailto:sales@keycentrix.com).