

AmeriSource to Meet Second Quarter Consensus Earnings

April 9, 1999

Business Editors

MALVERN, Pa.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--April 9, 1999--AmeriSource Health Corporation (NYSE:AAS), one of the nation's leading distributors of wholesale pharmaceuticals, announced today that it expects to meet consensus earnings estimates of \$.40 per share for the second quarter of fiscal year 1999, adjusted for the stock split effective March 24, 1999.

Detailed financial results for the quarter will be released on April 29, 1999. Management will conduct its quarterly conference call that morning at 11:00 ET. Details for the conference call will be disseminated within the next week.

Regarding the outlook for the remainder of the year, the Company continues to aggressively pursue opportunities to grow market share through the recent awards of the Premier, Inc., and Department of Veterans Affairs contracts.

The Company continues to centralize its utility functions. Last week, AmeriSource successfully integrated its Thorofare, NJ and Springfield, MA facilities. In addition, the distribution center located in Chattanooga, TN was closed and consolidated with the Birmingham, AL facility as planned by March-end, 1999.

The Company continues to expect 20% or greater earnings per share growth for the remainder of fiscal 1999 and reaffirms its commitment to comparable growth for the long term.

AmeriSource Health Corporation is a Fortune 200 company with revenues of \$8.7 billion for fiscal year end 1998. The Company is one of the nation's leading pharmaceutical distributors and serves the healthcare industry from a nationwide network of 23 strategically located distribution centers. News and additional information about AmeriSource are available at www.amerisource.com

Certain information contained in this press release includes forward-looking statements (as defined in Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Exchange Act) that reflect the Company's current views with respect to future events and financial performance. Certain factors such as competitive pressures, success of restructuring initiatives, continued industry consolidation, changes in customer mix, changes in pharmaceutical manufacturers' pricing and distribution policy, the loss of one or more key customer or supplier relationships and other matters contained in the Company's Form 10-K for fiscal year 1998 and other public documents could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements. The Company assumes no obligation to update the matters discussed in this press release.

CONTACT: AmeriSource Health Corporation, Malvern
MaryBeth Alvin
Director, Investor Relations
610/296-4480
malvin@amerisource.com