

**May 2006**

### **Clinovia acquisition of Guardian Homecare Group**

Clinovia, one of Britain's most experienced home healthcare providers, has made its first acquisition, buying Guardian Homecare and Guardian Care Support Services.

The purchase means that Clinovia can develop its home healthcare services for both health and social care customers. Guardian Care Support Services focuses on the specialist homecare market and complements Clinovia's own Complex Care division, which cares for patients with complex clinical needs.

**Guardian Care Support Services** was established in 2001 and operates as a care agency specialising in providing quality community support services to individuals with a learning disability, under contract to the local authority. It also provides relief support into residential homes and day centres.

**Guardian Homecare**, also established in 2001, is a franchise organisation focusing on homecare with 32 franchised territories and 28 franchisees throughout the UK. The company supports franchisees in registration and compliance issues and with marketing to residential and nursing homes. Clinovia expects to be able to open new franchises around the country.

Robbie Burns, chief executive of Clinovia, said:

"This acquisition supports our overall strategy and the ambitious growth plans for Clinovia in support of the government's initiatives in health and social care. As identified in the recent white paper ("*Our Health, Our Care, Our Say*") integration of services is important to patients and the commissioners of health and social care. Clinovia aims to facilitate this by offering comprehensive packages of care - meeting health and social care needs of patients and customers."