

December 13, 2024

Ms. Linda McMahon
Co-chair, Transition Team
President-elect Donald J. Trump

Mr. Howard Lutnick
Co-Chair, Transition Team
President-elect Donald J. Trump

Dear Co-chairs McMahon and Lutnick:

On behalf of the Healthcare Leadership Council (HLC), congratulations to President-elect Donald J. Trump and Vice President-elect JD Vance on their victory in November. We look forward to working together with the Administration's leadership to advance incredible opportunities and address ongoing challenges to strengthen the future of healthcare in the U.S.

The Healthcare Leadership Council's all-encompassing membership makes us great partners in the effort to Make America Healthy Again. We are an association of CEOs and C-suite executives from all sectors of healthcare working to shape the future of the U.S. healthcare system. Established more than thirty-five years ago, HLC is the exclusive forum for the nation's healthcare industry leaders to tackle significant sector-wide issues, generate innovative solutions to unleash private sector ingenuity, and advocate for policies to improve our nation's healthcare delivery system.

The U.S. healthcare system is at a critical juncture, facing both immense opportunities and paramount challenges and HLC is uniquely situated to help the new Administration. Advancing opportunities to strengthen healthcare's public-private partnerships by incenting value-based, high-quality care, bolstering innovation through appropriate regulation, and refining longstanding successful programs are critical. We are also laser focused on preserving telehealth flexibilities, leveraging artificial intelligence, and fortifying cybersecurity.

Advance Access to Care

Public-private collaboration is the cornerstone of our country's healthcare system. Members of HLC advocate for measures to increase the quality and efficiency of healthcare through a patient-centered approach. The companies we represent include hospitals, academic health centers, health plans, pharmaceutical companies, medical device manufacturers, laboratories, biotech firms, health product distributors/wholesalers, post-acute care providers, homecare providers, group purchasing organizations, and information technology companies. This makes us an exceptional partner as the Trump Administration works tirelessly to "Make America Healthy Again." At our core we believe that incenting the delivery of high-quality care, innovating new cures and treatments, and refining longstanding partnerships will greatly benefit patients.

- Incenting Quality Care

Our members are eager to collaborate to advance policies that build-on value-based care models, realign incentives to reduce fraud and waste, and update the Congressional Budget Office scoring methods to reflect long-term cost savings from preventive care. Supporting innovative care delivery models will further expand access to care and reduce costs for patients.

- Innovating New Cures and Treatments

We look forward to working with the Trump Administration to reduce regulatory barriers and red tape to enable new medical research opportunities to innovate and develop new treatments. Changes are needed to the Biden Administration's Inflation Reduction Act to reinvigorate the innovative scientific development of future cures.

- Reinforcing Long-Standing Partnerships

We, like many in the incoming Administration, believe in the benefits Medicare Advantage (MA) provides to seniors. The key to success is to continue supporting long-standing partnerships with MA plans by ensuring program stability, reducing process challenges, and fostering innovation in plan design, particularly for patients with chronic conditions. By encouraging the development of new plan options tailored to meet these patients' needs, we can harness the strength of the private marketplace to help improve health outcomes while reducing costs.

Unleash Technological Advances

The potential to unleash technological advances to improve health is immense. From telemedicine and artificial intelligence to data analytics – each offers promise to improve patient outcomes, enhance the efficiency of care delivery, and reduce costs. These innovations hold the power to make healthcare more accessible, personalized, and responsive to the needs of patients, providers, and communities. We look forward to working with the Administration to ensure their growth and success.

- Supporting Telehealth

Telehealth has emerged as a critical tool for enhancing access, convenience, and health outcomes, especially for rural and underserved communities. We support protecting these telehealth flexibilities for seniors covered by Medicare, individuals and families covered by Health Savings Account-eligible high-deductible health plans, and employers interested in offering telehealth as an excepted benefit. These policies will solidify telehealth's role in a modern, accessible healthcare system.

- Safeguarding Artificial Intelligence Technology

Artificial intelligence (AI) technologies hold vast possibilities to help healthcare providers make more accurate decisions, improve patient outcomes, and reduce costs. Thanks to our unique, wide-ranging membership we have seen how AI can be used positively across the care continuum. HLC can be a resource as the Trump



Administration begins to craft a comprehensive, coordinated regulatory framework and enact laws that not only define the healthcare functions of this new technology, but also protects data and eliminates privacy concerns. We believe that, without federal leadership, the quickly forming patchwork of state requirements will hinder this innovation.

- Bolstering Cybersecurity

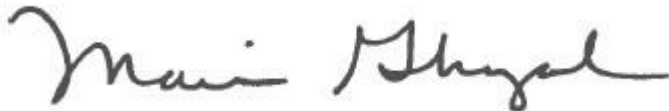
The healthcare sector remains a prime target for cyberattacks, which compromise patient data, disrupt care, and undermine trust in the system. Our members have seen it firsthand. We believe by partnering with the Administration and prioritizing cybersecurity as a national security issue we can better address these threats and protect sensitive patient data.

Promoting best practices in data protection, including encryption and multi-factor authentication, will be vital in safeguarding patient information and maintaining public confidence in the healthcare system.

Conclusion

HLC stands ready to work with the incoming Trump Administration to advance our shared priorities. In collaboration, we can achieve meaningful reforms that improve the quality, efficiency, and accessibility of healthcare for all Americans. As your Administration works to Make America Healthy Again, we would welcome the opportunity to discuss these priorities in greater detail and explore potential areas of collaboration. My number is 202-415-4704 and email is mghazal@hlc.org.

Sincerely,



Maria Ghazal
President & CEO

