



NATIONAL DIALOGUE FOR
Healthcare Innovation

December 3, 2021

The Honorable Xavier Becerra
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

RE: NDHI Disaster Preparedness and Response Recommendations – One Year Later

Dear Secretary Becerra:

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the private sector has responded with unprecedented urgency to emerging needs. Successful response efforts have generally required significant private-public collaboration and within-industry information sharing and partnerships. The response also revealed vulnerabilities in the United States' healthcare system. To support the healthcare sector's capacity to prepare for and respond to the next public health emergency, the undersigned organizations came together a year ago to highlight lessons learned from the response to the COVID-19 crisis, identify innovations that can be maintained or strengthened and develop recommendations for how the private and public sectors can better collaborate to prepare and respond to future threats and emergencies.

The Healthcare Leadership Council (HLC), an alliance of leaders from all sectors of American healthcare and the Duke-Margolis Center for Health Policy brought together expertise from over 100 public and private stakeholders and identified the need to strengthen coordination and collaborations, improve equity, harmonize conflicting requirements during emergencies, improve information sharing to address healthcare mobility and surge capacity, increase transparency for emergency management, and leverage innovations that were developed during the pandemic. In February 2021 the work of this group was published as the [Framework for Private-Public Collaboration on Disaster Preparedness and Response](#).

As you deliberate on next steps in responding, not only to the current pandemic but preparing for future public health challenges, we hope you will consider this group and their recommendations as a resource. The urgent need for private and public sector coordination to achieve systemic changes is evident. It is our shared priority to ensure that identified vulnerabilities are addressed with immediacy. We appreciate and value your department's tremendous work to continue responding to this crisis, especially as healthcare providers and others in the health sector are facing unprecedented pressures to continue to provide care.

HLC looks forward to working with you on implementing recommendations to strengthen our nation's disaster preparedness and response efforts. Please contact Kelly Fernandez at kfernandez@hlc.org or 202-449-3452 with any questions.

Sincerely,

AdvaMed
AdventHealth
Aetna
Aledade
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Clinical Laboratory Association
American College of Emergency Physicians
American Health Care Association
American Hospital Association
American Medical Association
American Pharmacists Association
American Public Health Association
America's Blood Centers
America's Health Insurance Plans
AmerisourceBergen
Amgen
AMN Healthcare
Ascension
Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness
Association of American Medical Colleges
Atrium Health
Baxter
Biogen
Biotechnology Innovation Organization
Bipartisan Policy Center
BlueCross BlueShield of North Carolina
BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee
Bristol Myers Squibb
Business Roundtable
CDC Foundation
Change Healthcare
Cigna/Express Scripts
City of Hope
Civica Rx
Cleveland Clinic
ConnectiveRx
Cotiviti
Deloitte
Duke-Margolis Center for Health Policy
ELITE Strategic Services
Epic
Fairview Health Services
Federation of American Hospitals
Genentech
Guardant Health
HCA Healthcare
Healthcare Distribution Alliance
Health Industry Distributors Association
Health Management Systems

Healthcare Leadership Council
Healthcare Ready
In-Q-Tel
IQVIA
Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory
Johnson & Johnson
Labcorp
Leidos
Leslie Platt & Associates
Magellan Health
Mallinckrodt
Marshfield Clinic Health System
Mayo Clinic
McKesson
Medidata Solutions
Medtronic
MemorialCare Health System
Merck
Mount Sinai Health System
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Association of Chain Drug Stores
National Association of Manufacturers
National Center for Disaster Medicine and Public Health, Uniformed Services University of the
Health Sciences
National Governors Association
National Health Council
National Minority Quality Forum
NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital
NorthShore University HealthSystem
Pfizer
Pharmaceutical Care Management Association
Pharmacy HIT Collaborative
PhRMA
Premier healthcare alliance
Primary Care Collaborative
SCAN Health Plan
Section 32
Senior Helpers
SSM Health
Stryker
Surescripts
Teladoc Health
Texas Health Resources
The Joint Commission
Thermo Fisher Scientific
The Sequoia Project
Tivity Health
UCB
University of Nebraska Medical Center
Vineti
Vizient
ZS Associates