



Healthcare Distribution Alliance

PATIENTS MOVE US.

January 11, 2021

President-elect Joseph R. Biden  
Presidential Transition Headquarters  
1401 Constitution Ave NW  
Washington, D.C.

Dear President-elect Biden:

On behalf of the [Healthcare Distribution Alliance \(HDA\)](#) congratulations again to you on your election to become the 46<sup>th</sup> President of the United States. HDA is the national trade association representing primary healthcare distributors — the logistics experts of the healthcare supply chain, ensuring the safe, efficient and reliable delivery of an estimated 93 percent of medicines purchased in the United States and connecting 180,000 healthcare providers and pharmacies with 1,400 drug manufacturers across the country.

HDA members are committed to supporting your incoming Administration's COVID-19 pandemic response. The initial intense demand for approved therapies, and now vaccines, requires extensive coordination across the entire pharmaceutical supply chain and with federal and state governments — both now, with the focus on healthcare providers and vulnerable populations, and as more doses are shipped to communities of all sizes across the nation. This need for coordination will only grow in size and scale as more vaccines receive emergency use authorization status from the FDA, and more doses of the Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna vaccines become available.

The healthcare distribution industry is in the unique position of having the know-how, previous experience and ability to quickly mobilize in large-scale public health efforts. HDA's members cover the entire U.S. with the capacity to reach every state and territory and every healthcare facility, including those in rural and underserved communities. Our members have long-standing relationships with numerous federal agencies and closely coordinate with all state public health departments. For additional HDA materials and pandemic response resources, visit: [www.hda.org/covid19](http://www.hda.org/covid19).

As recently announced, we understand that Operation Warp Speed (OWS) is accelerating plans to engage retail pharmacies in the process of vaccine administration. To assist in this process, HDA wants to ensure that all pharmaceutical wholesale distributors are prepared to support their pharmacy partners, and, by extension, the entire supply chain. As such, we feel it is critical for your Administration (HHS, CDC, OWS, Covid-19 Advisory Panel, etc.) to engage the entire distribution sector and bring to bear the full logistics expertise of our industry to ensure Americans across the country gain access to these critical medicines.

It is important to note that every pharmacy in the U.S., including national and regional chains, and independent community pharmacies, already have strong partnerships throughout HDA's distributor membership. These partnerships will be relied upon and leveraged in the coming weeks and months as additional vaccines become available and retail pharmacy locations join

the ranks of administration sites. As such, we are striving to ensure all HDA members are fully prepared to support this vital effort.

The recently enacted Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (*Public Law 116-260, Division M, Title III*) contains provisions that call for CDC to provide an updated coronavirus vaccine distribution strategy that includes how existing infrastructure will be leveraged, enhancements or new infrastructure that may be built, and considerations for moving and storing vaccines by January 26, 2021. Given the logistics expertise and delivery capabilities that healthcare distributors have already begun deploying, and will increasingly do so in the coming weeks and months, we stand ready to engage with you and leaders within your incoming Administration at the earliest availability to ensure alignment with respect to the growing needs related to vaccine delivery, and to discuss ways the distribution sector can help advance your mission of getting vaccines and therapies into the hands of healthcare providers as safely and rapidly as possible.

Since the emergence of COVID-19, HDA distributor members have worked tirelessly to navigate the exceptional and unprecedented demands of this public health emergency. From managing unique inventory demands of the first hotspots, to ensuring access to emerging treatment options and testing, HDA members have leveraged their extensive supply chain networks, logistics expertise and experience responding to previous public health emergencies. As you ascend to the presidency and lead our country, please know that HDA and our member companies pledge the full support of our industry. We are committed to the public- and private-sector partnerships that are critical in combating COVID-19, fueling our recovery and improving pandemic resilience for the future.

You can reach me directly by email at [cdavis@hda.org](mailto:cdavis@hda.org) or by phone at (703) 885-0219.

Sincerely,



Chester "Chip" Davis, Jr.  
President and CEO

CC: Dr. Rochelle Walensky, CDC Director-Designee  
Mr. Jeff Zients, Coordinator of the COVID-19 Response and Counselor to the President-Elect  
Dr. Bechara Chouciar, Vaccinations Coordinator