

February 10, 2015

Mr. Chris Disspain, Chairman ICANN Board Governance Committee (BGC)

## **RE: HLC LETTER OF OPPOSITION TO HEXAP APPLICATION 1-1192-28569**

Dear Chairman Disspain and Board Governance Committee Members:

The Healthcare Leadership Council (HLC), a coalition of chief executives from all disciplines of American healthcare, does not believe the application as put forth by HEXAP is representative of the broader healthcare community and therefore should not be awarded.

HLC is the exclusive forum for America's healthcare leaders to jointly develop policies, plans, and programs to achieve their vision of a 21st century system that makes affordable, high-quality, care accessible to all. Members of HLC – chief executives of hospitals, academic health centers, health plans, pharmaceutical companies, medical device manufacturers, biotech firms, health product distributors, pharmacies, and information technology companies – envision a quality-driven system that fosters innovation. HLC members advocate measures to increase the quality and efficiency of American healthcare by emphasizing wellness and prevention, care coordination, and the use of evidence-based medicine, while utilizing consumer choice and competition to enhance value.

HLC has reviewed the HEXAP application 1-1192-28569, and the associated documents as well as objections related to HEXAP's application for ".MED." HEXAP claims the ability to manage ".MED" as a community-based generic top-level domain (gTLD). It asserts an ability to certify licensed practitioners in the healthcare sector in order to provide internet users with unambiguous certainty in medical information, products, and services.

We conclude that HEXAP would not effectively represent the full spectrum of HLC membership. Further, as an expert in building healthcare coalitions at the national and local level, we can attest there is no single, global, community representing all of healthcare, as proposed by HEXAP and certainly not one represented by any one entity. We concur with the American Hospital Association's (AHA) September 2012 position that HEXAP is not "connected to the health care community" and does not represent a global healthcare community.

We do not believe that HEXAP can reasonably claim to represent even a material minority voice within the healthcare community. It is our opinion that it is the intent of HEXAP to invent such a community for the specific purpose of achieving priority in its competition to acquire the generic ".MED" TLD through the ICANN application process. For the reasons stated, HLC opposes the application as put forth by HEXAP and is of the strong belief no such priority should be awarded.

HLC sincerely appreciates the opportunity to comment on the ".MED" application. If you have any questions, please contact me at <u>tgrande@hlc.org</u> or 202-452-8700.

Sincerely,

Jina O. Ghande

Tina O. Grande Senior Vice President for Policy

## HLC MEMBERS 2015 (Alphabetized by Company)



HLC Chair Susan DeVore President & CEO Premier healthcare alliance

Mark Bertolini Chair, President & CEO Aetna

Todd Ebert CEO Amerinet

Steven Collis President & CEO AmerisourceBergen

Rolf Hoffmann SVP, U.S. Commercial Operations **Amgen** 

Joseph Swedish President & CEO Anthem

Anthony Tersigni, EdD, FACHE President & CEO Ascension

Jonathan Bush President & CEO athenahealth, Inc.

Joel Allison CEO Baylor Scott & White Health

Marc Grodman, M.D. Chairman, President & CEO **Bio-Reference Laboratories, Inc.** 

William Gracey President & CEO BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee Everett Hoekstra Sr. Vice President & CFO Boehringer Ingelheim USA

George Barrett Chairman & CEO Cardinal Health

Toby Cosgrove, M.D. CEO & President Cleveland Clinic Foundation

Tim Ring Chairman & CEO **C. R. Bard** 

Michael A. Mussallem Chairman & CEO Edwards Lifesciences

Alex Azar President, Lilly USA Eli Lilly and Company

Neil de Crescenzo CEO **Emdeon** 

John Finan, Jr. President & CEO Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady Health System, Inc.

Patricia Hemingway Hall President & CEO Health Care Service Corporation

Daniel Tassé Chairman & CEO **Ikaria** 

Daniel Evans, Jr. President & CEO Indiana University Health Paul Meister Chairman & CEO inVentiv Health

Jennifer Taubert Company Group Chairman, North American Pharmaceuticals Johnson & Johnson

Susan Turney, M.D. CEO Marshfield Clinic Health System

John Noseworthy, M.D. President & CEO Mayo Clinic

John Hammergren Chairman & CEO McKesson Corporation

Chris O'Connell EVP & President, Restorative Therapies Group Medtronic

Barry Arbuckle, Ph.D. President & CEO MemorialCare Health System

Robert McMahon President, U.S. Market Merck

Steven Corwin, M.D. CEO NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

Mark Neaman President & CEO NorthShore University HealthSystem

Christi Shaw US Country Head, President Novartis Pharmaceuticals

Jesper Hoiland President **Novo Nordisk, Inc.**  Craig Smith Executive Chairman **Owens & Minor** 

Greg Irace President & CEO Sanofi US

Chris Wing President & CEO SCAN Health Plan

Tim Scannell Group President, MedSurg & Neurotechnology Stryker

Tom Skelton CEO Surescripts

Doug Cole President Takeda Pharmaceuticals U.S.A.

Barclay Berdan CEO Texas Health Resources

Curt Nonomaque President & CEO VHA Inc.

Gregory Wasson President & CEO Walgreens

James Chambers President & CEO Weight Watchers International

Jaideep Bajaj Chairman **ZS Associates** 

