



May 5, 2017

The Honorable Greg Walden  
Chairman  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
Washington D.C. 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
Washington D.C. 20515

The Honorable Michael C. Burgess, M.D.  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Health  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
Washington D.C. 20515

The Honorable Gene Green  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Health  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Chairmen and Ranking Members:

The members of the Healthcare Leadership Council (HLC) strongly support H. R. 1703, the “Medical Product Communications Act.” We urge the Energy and Commerce Committee to take up this bill for consideration and approve it. HLC members, through our broad, multisector National Dialogue for Healthcare Innovation (NDHI) have emphasized the need to increase flexibility to share scientific and healthcare economic information with healthcare decision-makers in order to drive the use of the highest-value treatment option.

HLC is a coalition of chief executives from all disciplines within American healthcare. It is the exclusive forum for the nation’s healthcare leaders to jointly develop policies, plans, and programs to achieve their vision of a 21st century health system that makes affordable, high-quality care accessible to all Americans. Members of HLC—hospitals, academic health centers, health plans, pharmaceutical companies, medical device manufacturers, biotech firms, health product distributors, pharmacies, post-acute care providers, and information technology companies—believe that the issue of healthcare costs should be addressed through competition in a transparent, consumer-oriented healthcare marketplace.

HLC believes that biopharmaceutical manufacturers can and should partner with payers and providers in efforts to communicate about and optimize the clinical benefits of prescribed treatments. The push for value-based payment is accelerating demands by payers and providers for a growing range of information about the clinical and economic outcomes of biopharmaceutical products. Biopharmaceutical companies routinely develop data describing the cost-effectiveness of various treatment options, data based on post-market use of these medicines, as well as safety and efficacy information. Application of these data can enhance patient care and the efficiency of the healthcare system, but companies are not currently permitted to share such information proactively with healthcare professionals or payers.

As leaders from the full spectrum of American healthcare, we have long maintained that driving high-value healthcare must be a priority. Doctors should have the most up-to-date information when caring for their patients and, when done responsibly and in an appropriate context, manufacturers should be able to provide it. Meaningful, fact-based discussions between healthcare product manufacturers and the purchasers of their products will help drive the adoption of better and safer patient care.

We applaud your leadership in reviewing important legislation to further these goals. Please feel free to contact HLC's SVP for Policy, Tina Grande ([tgrande@hlc.org](mailto:tgrande@hlc.org) or 202-449-3433), with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary R. Greal". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

Mary R. Greal  
President