

Beth Israel

Continuum Health Partners, Inc.

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September 30th, 2013

Kevin G. Munjal, MD, MPH
Founder, NY Mobile Integrated Healthcare Association (NYMIHA)
c/o Mount Sinai Medical Center
One Gustave Levy Place, Box 1620
New York, NY 10029

Dear Dr. Munjal,

Our organization, Beth Israel Medical Center, officially endorses and supports the efforts of the New York Mobile Integrated Healthcare Association (formerly NY Community Paramedicine Task Force). Specifically, we support the Association's model of improved out-of-hospital care including all efforts to make emergency medical services (EMS) more patient-centered and adaptive to changes in the healthcare system. We also endorse efforts to make out-of-hospital care more integrated into the continuum of healthcare delivery and to integrate EMS into the public health infrastructure.

Our practice is located at 309 West 23rd Street in Manhattan. It is a 17,600 square foot facility that provides urgent care, continuity primary care, and specialty care to the local community.

Beth Israel Medical Group will participate as a location that will accept transportation of established patients when clinically appropriate.

We will offer appointments from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM, seven days a week to our established patients, and be available by telephone and email as needed. Patients will have access to urgent or primary care with either a PCP and/or a specialist as needed.

The current New York State Medicaid Reimbursement policy does not allow EMS providers to deliver higher quality, patient-centered healthcare. Instead, it emphasizes transport. We support any effort by the NYMIHA to realign financial incentives for out-of-hospital care. We believe that changing New York State Medicaid reimbursement policy will enable providers of EMS to make a wide array of contributions to improving the public health while lowering costs.

We recognize and thank the NY Mobile Integrated Association for initiating a statewide dialogue about the potential impact of improvement out-hospital-care. We encourage other organizations, hospital systems, public and private healthcare insurers, and government regulators to engage in this important discussion about the numerous social and financial benefits prehospital care can have throughout the state.

Sincerely,


Kelly Cassano

Senior Medical Director of Continuum Medical Group