

1199SEIU

United Healthcare Workers East

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Kevin G. Munjal, MD, MPH
Assistant Professor, Associate Medical Director of Prehospital Care
Mount Sinai Medical Center
One Gustave Levy Place, Box 1620
New York, NY 10029

October 10, 2013

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Dear Dr. Munjal,

Our organization, 1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East is proud to support this innovative program aiming to realign reimbursement for out-of-hospital care and to transform EMS into a more patient-centered delivery model. We agree that the current one-size-fits-all approach of transporting all patients to the hospital does not meet the needs or expectations of patients who utilize the system and is inconsistent with the goals of healthcare reform. We feel that this program offers a truly unique opportunity to make out-of-hospital care more integrated into the continuum of healthcare delivery and improve our ability to perform population health management.

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1199 SEIU is the fastest-growing, most effective healthcare union in the country. Our 350,000 members work in every part of the healthcare industry, including hospitals, nursing homes and homecare.

As a progressive health care union, we support Community Paramedicine. We believe that patient-centered prehospital care is in the best interest of patients, hospitals and the community, and that new models of prehospital care will give the EMS community the chance to be an effective force in healthcare reform. We will commit to agreeing to work collaboratively with our interested hospitals to develop Paramedicine opportunities and models of care.

We recognize and thank the Task Force for initiating a statewide dialogue about the potential impact of improved out-of-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,



Kevin Finnegan

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