



Regional Emergency Medical Organization  
Office of the Medical Director  
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September 10, 2014

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,

The Regional Medical Advisory Committee of REMO officially endorses and supports the efforts of the New York Mobile Integrated Healthcare Association. 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.

The Regional Medical Advisory Committee supports the EMS systems for the 6 counties around Albany, and we would like to see the focus on our providers to be the best care for the patient, and not necessarily the transport of a patient to the hospital. Currently 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 Healthcare Association 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,

Michael W. Dailey, MD FACEP