

December 4, 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 Primary Care Development Corp (PCDC) 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 primary care and the continuum of healthcare delivery, and to integrate EMS into the public health infrastructure.

PCDC is a nationally recognized nonprofit whose mission is to expand access to primary care in underserved communities. PCDC achieves this mission through three programs: capital financing to build and expand primary care infrastructure; technical assistance to help primary care practices improve their performance and operate more efficiently; and public advocacy to support policies that sustain and expand primary care. PCDC began in 1993 in New York, and now operates nationally, providing capital financing and technical assistance in states and communities throughout the US, and playing an increasingly important role in shaping national policy related to primary care.

The current New York State Medicaid reimbursement policy does not allow EMS providers to deliver the highest quality, patient-centered healthcare. Instead, it emphasizes transport. We support efforts by the NYMIHA to realign financial incentives for out-of-hospital care to support more patient centered reimbursement models that emphasize care coordination and facilitate population health while lowering costs.

We believe that innovative uses of EMS may be one effective tool in achieving NYS DSRIP goals. EMS that is integrated into the delivery system can be an important resource for identifying potentially avoidable hospital admissions and linking patients back to their primary care providers. EMS that is integrated clinically, technologically and financially into a delivery system as an extension of a PCMH, has the potential to achieve the triple aim.

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,

Ronda



**Ronda Kotelchuck**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Primary Care Development Corporation  
22 Cortlandt Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10007  
P: (212) 437-3917 | F: (917) 206-1517  
[rkotelchuck@pcdc.org](mailto:rkotelchuck@pcdc.org)