



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:
Brigid Hasson
202-684-3723

HSCA RELEASES HEALTHCARE CYBERSECURITY KEY CONSIDERATIONS TO HELP PROTECT PATIENT HEALTH, SAFETY, AND PRIVACY

Key Considerations Will Help Healthcare Stakeholders Address Cyber Vulnerabilities While Promoting the Use of Innovative Technologies

Washington, DC (December 21, 2021) – The Healthcare Supply Chain Association ([HSCA](#)), which represents the nation’s leading healthcare group purchasing organizations (GPOs), today [released](#) key cybersecurity considerations for medical device manufacturers, healthcare delivery organizations, and service providers to help safeguard patient health, safety, and privacy. In conjunction with the release of the key considerations, HSCA also published “[Recommendations for Medical Device Cybersecurity Terms and Conditions](#),” which details potential purchasing contract terms and conditions that could help ensure rapid adoption of rigorous cybersecurity measures.

“The widespread adoption of telemedicine and rapid shift to virtual operations during the COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the important role that information technology, software, and medical devices can play in improving patient care. However, as evidenced by recent cyberattacks, medical devices and services are vulnerable to cybersecurity threats that could jeopardize patient health, safety, and privacy,” said HSCA President and CEO Todd Ebert, R. Ph. “GPOs leverage their unique line of sight over the supply chain to help providers harness the benefits of technology to care for their patients while guarding against cyber threats.”

HSCA’s cybersecurity measures include the following categories of considerations:

- **Cybersecurity Training and Software**: Includes designating an information technology security officer, maintaining updated anti-virus software, and implementing role-appropriate cyber training and assessments;
- **Equipment Acquisition Standards and Risk Coverage**: Includes ensuring compliance with regulatory standards for purchasing medical devices and updating legacy devices, providing insurance policies to cover cybersecurity risks, and validating devices by testing manufacturer claims;
- **Data Encryption**: Includes encrypting personal authentication data as well as any confidential or sensitive information when practical;
- **Information Sharing & Standards Organizations**: Includes participating in Information Sharing and Analysis Organizations (ISAOs), certifying that suppliers of network-accessible medical devices, software and services are compliant with current FDA guidance documents, and



ensuring that manufacturers provide a Manufacturer Disclosure Statement for Medical Device Security;

“The increased use of connected medical devices and software as a service (SaaS), the adoption of wireless technology, and overall increased medical device and service connectivity to the internet significantly increase the risks of cybersecurity incidents,” said HSCA Committee for Healthcare eStandards (ChES) Executive Director Curt Miller. “HSCA and its Committee for Healthcare eStandards are committed to accelerating the adoption, implementation, and active usage of industry-wide data standards for improving efficiencies and safety throughout the healthcare supply chain, and HSCA’s key considerations are part of that continued commitment.”

To view the full considerations, click [here](#).

###

About the Healthcare Supply Chain Association (HSCA)

The Healthcare Supply Chain Association ([HSCA](#)) represents the nation’s leading healthcare group purchasing organizations (GPOs), which are critical cost-savings partners to America’s hospitals, nursing homes, nursing home pharmacies, clinics, home healthcare providers and surgery centers. GPOs deliver billions in savings annually to healthcare providers, Medicare and Medicaid, and taxpayers. HSCA and its member GPOs are committed to delivering the best products at the best value to healthcare providers, to increasing competition and innovation in the market, and to being supply chain leaders in transparency and accountability. For more information, visit www.supplychainassociation.org. Follow HSCA on Twitter [@HSCA](#).