

March 9, 2021

Rob Glenn
Director, Office of Business, Industry, and Infrastructure (OB3I)
FEMA
500 C Street, SW
Washington, DC 20472-3210

Mr. Glenn:

The undersigned signatories of the Voluntary Agreement for the Manufacture and Distribution of Critical Healthcare Resource Necessary to Respond to a Pandemic (Voluntary Agreement) 85 FR 50035 (August 17, 2020) that was developed pursuant to section 708 of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (DPA), as amended (50 U.S.C. § 4558) request that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Administrator (Administrator) develop a Plan of Action to maximize the resiliency and efficiency of the COVID-19 vaccine distribution system by utilizing the entire U.S. commercial medical supply and pharmaceutical distribution system.

The distribution and administration of the COVID-19 vaccine is the most complex and massive public health effort in U.S. history: the delivery of up to 660 million doses of highly sensitive vaccines in the span of a few months.

To vaccinate the U.S. population safely, quickly, and equitably, we believe the entire U.S. commercial medical supply and pharmaceutical distribution system will need to be activated, in addition to the public health supply chain at the state and local level. The nation's existing commercial medical supply and pharmaceutical distribution system has well-established networks that reach administration sites across the entire country, such as pharmacies, doctors' offices, hospitals, and other healthcare providers.

The purpose of the proposed COVID-19 vaccine distribution Plan of Action would be to identify: (1) the multiple supply chain routes via public health and existing commercial infrastructure which can get COVID-19 vaccines quickly and safely to the greatest possible number of entities that can administer them; (2) the best supply chain routes to retail pharmacies, hospitals, physician offices, and other health care facilities; (3) the best supply chain routes to mass and mobile vaccine sites; (4) the best mechanisms for maximizing distribution in diverse/minority and rural communities; and (5) the redundant mechanisms which can prevent system shutdown.

We stand ready to work with you on this important effort.

Sincerely,



Reid Arstark
VP, Senior Counsel
Henry Schein, Inc.



Craig Cowman
EVP, Global Sourcing
Cardinal Health



Heather Zenk, PharmD, RPh
SVP, Strategic Global Sourcing
AmerisourceBergen