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August 26, 2016

Vindell Washington, MD, MHCM, FACEP
National Coordinator for Health Information Technology
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
330 C St SW, Floor 7
Washington, DC 20024

Re: Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) Interoperability Shared Commitment Pledge

Dear Dr. Washington:

Nemours Children's Health System (Nemours) is pleased to submit the Interoperability Shared Commitment Pledge to the Office of the National Coordinator. We are encouraged to see ONC's continual commitment to ensuring our nation's investment in health information technology (health IT) realizes a return to the taxpayers and lives up to the promise of enabling better healthcare.

Nemours is an internationally recognized and integrated children's health system. As one of the nation's largest pediatric health systems, we integrate innovative patient care, research, education, prevention and advocacy to support the children and families in our care and in the communities beyond our walls.

In addition to our two free-standing children's hospitals — Nemours/Alfred I. DuPont Hospital for Children in Wilmington, Del., and Nemours Children's Hospital in Orlando, Fla. — we provide primary, specialty and urgent care for children through more than 60 locations in six states, including Delaware, Florida, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Georgia and Maryland. Families, educators and health care professionals across the country rely on Nemours pediatric expertise.

Nemours has long embraced health IT as a key driver in improving access to health care, quality and safety, lowering costs and enhancing the patient/family experience. Through NemoursOne, our fully integrated, system-wide EHR platform, we have connected and coordinated all phases of care for our patients: in our hospitals, primary or specialty care settings, and at the referring physician's office

Alfred I. duPont
Hospital for Children

Nemours BrightStart!

Nemours Center for
Children's Health Media

Nemours Children's Clinic

Nemours Children's Hospital

Nemours Fund for
Children's Health

Nemours Health &
Prevention Services

Nemours Mansion & Gardens

Nemours Pediatrics

Nemours SeniorCare

Your child. Our promise.
Nemours.org

In addition, we are leveraging our EHR to achieve national patient safety goals, improving clinical decision support, and facilitating better patient outcomes in obesity prevention, reducing asthma-related emergency department visits and increased immunization rates. Finally, MyNemours, our secure, online patient/family portal, enables parents and guardians 24/7 access to the most current health information - including downloading a Health Summary from past visits - and the ability to conveniently request an appointment, renew prescriptions, send photos of their child and communicate directly with the care team.

We made and continue to make these investments because we believe interoperable technology and information exchange are vital underpinnings of payment reform and health care delivery transformation in the United States. Achieving a health care system that improves health outcomes by paying for value and promoting accountability is not possible without the support of reliable and accessible data.

Therefore, we at Nemours share the principle that to achieve open, connected care for our communities, we all have the responsibility to take action. To further these goals, we commit to the following principles to advance interoperability among health information systems enabling free movement of data, which are foundational to the success of delivery system reform.

Consumer Access: To help consumers easily and securely access their electronic health information, direct it to any desired location, learn how their information can be shared and used, and be assured that this information will be effectively and safely used to benefit their health and that of their community.

No Blocking/Transparency: To help providers share individuals' health information for care with other providers and their patients whenever permitted by law, and not block electronic health information (defined as knowingly and unreasonably interfering with information sharing).

Standards: Implement federally recognized, national interoperability standards, policies, guidance, and practices for electronic health information, and adopt best practices including those related to privacy and security.

For more information, please contact Katie Boyer, Manager of Advocacy at (202) 649-4415 or Katie.boyer@nemours.org.

Sincerely,



David J. Bailey, MD, MBA
President and Chief Executive Officer
The Nemours Foundation

Cc: Lauren Choi, Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT