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**GPOs WORK WITH CLINTON FOUNDATION TO EXPEDITE MUCH NEEDED MEDICAL SUPPLIES TO
THE PEOPLE OF HAITI**

*AMERICA'S HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY CAN SAVE LIVES BY DONATING ESSENTIAL MEDICAL EQUIPMENT
THROUGH THE CLINTON FOUNDATION TO DOCTORS AND EMERGENCY PERSONNEL IN HAITI*

Washington, D.C. (January 21, 2010) – The Health Industry Group Purchasing Association (HIGPA) today announced that it is working hand-in-hand with the Clinton Foundation, in cooperation with Partners in Health (PIH), to facilitate the delivery of much needed medical supplies to the people of Haiti in the aftermath of last week's devastating earthquake. HIGPA is directing all member group purchasing organizations (GPOs) to help inventory all hospital and supplier activities with respect to the recovery effort, as well as provide administrative support and assistance to hospitals willing to donate these supplies to the search and rescue operation.

HIGPA is actively working with member GPOs and their aggregate hospitals to expedite life-saving medical equipment to Port-au-Prince, Haiti, and the surrounding communities of people who are in desperate need of medical attention. HIGPA is urging all of its members to work with hospital administrators to process purchase orders and swiftly deliver a wide range of medical supplies to Haiti. In cooperation with the Clinton Foundation, HIGPA is working to equip doctors and emergency staff on the ground with supplies necessary to provide urgent medical care to those critically injured in the disaster.

“HIGPA is urging all of our members to identify groups of hospitals willing to donate emergency medical supplies to the people of Haiti and provide much needed administrative support and organization to help get the right equipment to the doctors on the ground as soon as possible,” said Curtis Rooney, President of HIGPA. “Healthcare group purchasing organizations can play a crucial role in organizing hospitals, taking inventories, and facilitating the delivery of life-saving medical supplies in the aftermath of a disaster. By working with the Clinton Foundation, we hope that our member hospitals are able to help expedite the delivery of essential medical supplies to the doctors, staff, and volunteers in Haiti working to save lives.”

GPOs aggregate hospitals and use volume purchasing power to help supply hospitals and patients with life-saving medical devices at significantly reduced costs, saving the healthcare industry as much as \$36 billion each year. Most GPOs are owned by non-profit hospitals or health system co-ops, and regularly bring state-of-the-art medical devices at reduced costs to smaller local hospitals that would not have access to the highest quality equipment otherwise. In response to the recovery efforts in Haiti, GPOs will work with medical equipment suppliers and member hospitals to donate high-value medical equipment to the people of Haiti. By leveraging large networks of hospitals, GPOs can help aggregate purchase orders and deliver a high volume of medical supplies quickly and efficiently.

“While emergency medical equipment is essential, HIGPA also urges other industries to come together and provide necessary services or funds,” said Rooney. “The people of Haiti need our help and it's up to leaders across all industries to heed the call and identify the best way their industry can contribute. We

hope that other healthcare-related industries will recognize the importance of sending medical supplies to Haiti and only increase their efforts as the recovery moves forward.”

The Clinton Foundation is working directly with Partners in Health, who maintain 9 hospitals on the outskirts of Port-au-Prince that have the infrastructure and emergency personnel to deliver urgent medical care. PIH has been operating in Haiti for 20 years and was designated by the World Health Organization (WHO) to serve as the coordinator of the public hospital, Hopital de l'Universite d'Etat d'Haiti (HUEH). The Clinton Foundation has established a logistics team based in Santo Domingo which is working to ensure that all donations are delivered safely to Haiti and then distributed to the sites that most need it. HIGPA is encouraging all hospitals interested in donating supplies to please contact:

Owen Robinson

Coordinator, Procurement

Haiti Earthquake Relief

Clinton HIV/AIDS Initiative

Email: orobinson@clintonfoundation.org

Phone: 1-617-447-7288

In addition, HIGPA-member GPOs have also joined the American Hospital Association in encouraging their suppliers and member healthcare facilities to consider donating via the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) or another well-established, private-sector relief organization. To donate time, money, supplies or equipment via USAID, please visit http://www.usaid.gov/locations/latin_america_caribbean/country/haiti/eq/. For specific inquiries related to technical assistance or commodities donations, visit http://www.usaid.gov/help/haiti/cidi_offers.html. HIGPA is also encouraging members to make cash donations through the Clinton Bush Haiti Fund at www.ClintonBushHaitiFund.org.

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About HIGPA

The Health Industry Group Purchasing Association (HIGPA) is a broad-based trade association that represents 16 group purchasing organizations, including for-profit and not-for-profit corporations, purchasing groups, associations, multi-hospital systems and healthcare provider alliances. HIGPA's mission is to advocate on behalf of health care group purchasing associations, to provide educational opportunities designed to improve efficiencies in the purchase, sale and utilization of all goods and services within the health industry and to promote meaningful dialogue between GPOs. For more information, visit www.higpa.org.