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HSCA CEO STATEMENT ON CMS FINAL RULE FOR BIOSIMILAR REIMBURSEMENT

Washington, DC (October 30, 2015) – Healthcare Supply Chain Association (HSCA) President and CEO Todd Ebert, R.Ph., today released the following statement about the CMS final rule for biosimilar reimbursement:

“HSCA applauds CMS for its decision to include all biosimilars for the same reference product as part of the same J code for billing purposes. HSCA and its members are committed to lowering costs and increasing competition and innovation in the healthcare marketplace. Biosimilar drugs have tremendous potential to increase patient access to life-saving biologic treatments and to reduce costs for the entire healthcare system.

“The market competition critical to lowering costs for biosimilars will occur when second or third biosimilar manufacturers enter the market and are included in the same J code as other biosimilar manufacturers for the same reference product. Given that private-market reimbursement often follows the same pathway as Medicare, the CMS reimbursement decision today will help create appropriate market pressure on manufacturers to lower prices.

“The CMS reimbursement decision is an important step toward increasing patient access to safe, effective and affordable care and we look forward to continuing to work with the Agency as it implements the biosimilar reimbursement process for the Medicare program.”

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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.

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