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## **HSCA FILES COMMENTS WITH FDA ON INTEROPERABILITY STANDARDS FOR PRESCRIPTION DRUG TRANSACTIONS**

*Comments Requested by FDA as Part of Drug Supply Chain Security Act Implementation*

**Washington, DC (April 22, 2014)** – The Healthcare Supply Chain Association (HSCA) this week filed comments with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on interoperability standards for prescription drug transactions. The HSCA comments, requested by FDA as part of the implementation of the Drug Supply Chain Security Act (DSCSA), focused on the importance of global standards, healthcare stakeholder coordination, and innovation necessary to achieve interoperable electronic health records.

As part of the HSCA Comments, HSCA President Curtis Rooney said:

“[I]mplementation of the DSCSA holds the promise of linking all appropriate aspects of the healthcare supply chain and ultimately positively connecting to patient care... The primary challenge to any collaborative supply chain solution is ensuring that the data can be shared and understood.

“HSCA maintains that capture of both [Unique Device Identifiers] and appropriate pharmaceutical product information within [Electronic Health Records] would result in several benefits to patient care, including establishing improved recall resolution, enhanced care coordination and a definitive source of information for both patients and providers. Including this information would also create new and important opportunities to perform comparative research and effectiveness.

“As a result, we believe that it is appropriate for the FDA to consider in its review of interoperability such issues as the product identifier, data element, format and/or field that would be appropriate to include in the development of the DSCSA requirements in relation to the meaningful use of [Electronic Health Records].”

For the full HSCA comments, please click [here](#).

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### **About the Healthcare Supply Chain Association (HSCA)**

The Healthcare Supply Chain Association, formerly the Health Industry Group Purchasing Association, is a broad-based trade association that represents 14 group purchasing organizations, including for-profit and not-for-profit corporations, purchasing groups, associations, multi-hospital systems and healthcare provider alliances. HSCA’s mission is to advocate on behalf of healthcare 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.supplychainassociation.org](http://www.supplychainassociation.org).