



March 10, 2022

Michael Parrish  
Principal Executive Director and Chief Acquisition Officer  
Office of Acquisition, Logistics and Construction (OALC)  
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
810 Vermont Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20420

Subject: Acquisition Strategy for the Medical/Surgical Prime Vendor (MSPV) Program

Mr. Parrish,

By letter dated On January 24<sup>th</sup>, the Coalition for Government Procurement reached out to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) regarding the Supply Chain Assessment (SCA) and, more immediately, to provide the VA with industry input and commercial best practices for the development of the VA's acquisition strategy for Medical/Surgical Prime Vendor Z (MSPV-Z). We appreciate the VA's ongoing dialogue with its industry partners regarding the modernization of the medical supply chain that supports the health and well-being of our nation's veterans. However, to date, the VA's industry partners supporting medical/surgical supply chain have not received public indication or notice on the VA's next steps for the MSPV-Z program, and thus, by this letter, we seek an update from the agency.

By way of background, after acknowledging the VA's work on the ongoing Supply Chain Assessment (SCA) examining the VA's medical, IT, and facilities supply chains as part of an overall, enterprise-wide strategy for supply chain management, the Coalition emphasized that the future medical/surgical prime vendor program will require a robust, holistic, and sound review of medical logistics operations across the VA. We also expressed our members' support for the timely reinstatement/recompete of the MSPV 2.0 Prime Vendor solicitation requirements, with appropriate amendments to the requirements consistent with the bid associated protest decision and the VA's changed circumstances. In addition, we recognized that, against the backdrop of VHA's five-year BPAs with 121 different suppliers covering over 70,000 products, the VA's quick movement to a new, competitively awarded set of Prime Vendor contracts will ensure that the VA has access to a panoply of products at fair and reasonable prices and will sustain the long-term health of the medical/surgical supply chain for veterans healthcare, the VA, and its industry partners.

To assist the VA in its efforts, the Coalition provided a list of MSPV Transition Principles. Both the January 24<sup>th</sup> letter and the principles are attached for your convenience.

Currently, there are less than nine months left before the VA's current, sole source prime vendor contracts expire. Without a clear framework to outline how the agency will move forward, it is difficult for the medical/surgical supply industry to truly partner with the VA. In addition, industry is unable to provide the ongoing, constructive dialog and input that is so important to assuring alignment between agency expectations and market realities. Communicating with stakeholders about the plan for MSPV-Z, and

moving forward with that plan, would provide discipline to the discussion and activities surrounding this effort, like the ongoing Supply Chain Assessment that VA is undertaking.

As you know, the Coalition's members support the VA and its mission to serve veterans and are committed to ensuring a smooth transition to MSPV-Z. For this reason, we are asking for you and your team to conduct an industry meeting to provide an update on the status of the prime vendor contracts and the VA's MSPV-Z acquisition strategy. In this regard, the Coalition stands ready to facilitate such a meeting. Please feel free to contact me at [rwaldron@thecgp.org](mailto:rwaldron@thecgp.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roger Waldron', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Roger Waldron  
President

CC: Phil Christy, Deputy Executive Director, Office of Acquisition, Logistics and Construction