



the campaign for
environmentally responsible
health care

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The Honorable Henry A. Waxman
Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

July 12, 2010

Dear Representative Waxman:

Health Care Without Harm is pleased to submit the attached documents for the Record on the hearing "Antibiotic Resistance and the Use of Antibiotics in Animal Agriculture" of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee, July 13, 2010. We will submit through Representative Schakowsky.

Since the introduction of the "Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act," HCWH has gathered information from the health care sector in support of the legislation. We are submitting more than 1000 names of physicians and other health care practitioners who have written to support legislation that would reduce or prohibit the non-therapeutic use of antibiotics in food animals. We are also submitting a list of more than 70 hospitals that have indicated their support for such legislation by signing a petition.

In addition, more than 300 hospitals have signed the Health Care Without Harm Healthy Food in Health Care Pledge, which, among other commitments, seeks to purchase foods produced without the use of non-therapeutic antibiotics for the hospital food service, for patients and staff.

We believe that legislation is necessary to preserve the effectiveness of our existing antibiotics. Antibiotic resistant bacterial infections are a serious concern for individuals, communities and our health care delivery system. Patients suffer longer illnesses and pay higher medical costs, and health practitioners are left with little means to protect their patients or themselves from bacterial infection. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that 60,000 Americans die annually from resistant infections. The American College of Physicians estimates that \$30 billion is spent on the cumulative effects of antimicrobial resistance each year (including multiple drug regimens, extra hospital days, additional medical care and lost productivity).

Despite the rising rates and immense medical costs of antibiotic resistance, antibiotics and related drugs are routinely added to the feed of livestock and poultry not to treat diagnosed disease, but to promote faster growth and compensate for unsanitary living conditions. In 2003, the U.S. Institute of Medicine/ National Academy of Science stated that "substantial efforts must be made to decrease inappropriate

overuse [of antibiotics] in animals and agriculture" and that decreasing "antimicrobial use in human medicine alone will have little effect on the current [antibiotic-resistant] situation."

Health Care Without Harm is an international coalition of more than 430 organizations in 52 countries, working to transform the health care industry worldwide, without compromising patient safety or care, so that it is ecologically sustainable and no longer a source of harm to public health and the environment. For more information on HCWH, see www.noharm.org.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these documents for the record.

Sincerely,

Jamie Harvie
Chair, Healthy Food Initiative
HCWH

Cc: The Honorable Janice D. Schakowsky



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WWW.NOHARM.ORG

July 12, 2010

Dear Senator or Representative:

On behalf of Health Care Without Harm and the undersigned hospitals and health systems, we **urge you to support the Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act (S. 619/H.R. 1549)**. This legislation is necessary to keep our precious antibiotics working for people when they are faced with potentially life-threatening illnesses. In addition to the hospitals and health systems listed below. PAMTA is supported by a growing number of medical and public health organizations including the American Medical Association, American Nurses Association, American Public Health Association, and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Antibiotics were one of the greatest medical innovations of the last century. But today, physicians are seeing more and more patients with more expensive, more threatening infections that are resistant to multiple antibiotics. The Centers for Disease control estimates that 60,000 Americans die annually from resistant infections. The American College of Physicians estimates that \$30 billion is spent on the cumulative effects of antimicrobial resistance each year (including multiple drug regimens, extra hospital days, additional medical care and lost productivity).

The Institute of Medicine/National Academy of Science has stated that, "Clearly, a decrease in antimicrobial use in human medicine alone will have little effect on the current [antibiotic-resistant] situation. Substantial efforts must be made to decrease inappropriate overuse in animals and agriculture as well." Nevertheless, medically important antibiotics and related drugs continue to be routinely added to the feed of livestock and poultry that are not sick, to promote faster growth and compensate for unsanitary living conditions. This unnecessary overuse of antibiotics promotes the development of resistance and as well, undercuts their effectiveness for treatment of sick animals.

The Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act will protect public health by requiring automatic phase out of the use of seven classes of antibiotics designated as "critically important" or "highly important" in human medicine as agricultural feed additives unless FDA concludes within two years that their use does not contribute to antibiotic resistance affecting humans. Passage of this bill would be an important step in addressing the very real threat of antibiotic resistance and preserving the effectiveness of existing antibiotics for treatment of both human and animal diseases.

We urge you to support the Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act and undertake all measures necessary to ensure its ultimate enactment.

Sincerely,

Health Care Without Harm

Fletcher Allen Health Care, VT

Porter Medical Center, VT

Fairview Hospital, MA

Covenant Health Systems, New England (14 facilities)

Regis Care Center, NY

Swedish Covenant, IL

St. Luke's, MN

Sacred Heart Hospital, WI

Mercy Medical Center, Baltimore , MD

Oregon Health and Science University, OR

Catholic Healthcare West, AZ , NV, CA (40 facilities)

St. Joseph Health System - Sonoma County, CA (7 facilities)



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Dear Senator or Representative:

We, the undersigned nurses, doctors, dietitians and other health practitioners are writing to urge you to support the Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act (S. 619/H.R. 1549). We believe that this legislation is necessary to preserve the effectiveness of our existing antibiotics.

Antibiotic resistant bacterial infections are a serious concern for individuals, communities and our health care delivery system. Patients suffer longer illnesses and pay higher medical costs, and health practitioners are left with little means to protect their patients or themselves from bacterial infection. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that 60,000 Americans die annually from resistant infections. The American College of Physicians estimates that \$30 billion is spent on the cumulative effects of antimicrobial resistance each year (including multiple drug regimens, extra hospital days, additional medical care and lost productivity).

Despite the rising rates and immense medical costs of antibiotic resistance, antibiotics and related drugs are routinely added to the feed of livestock and poultry not to treat diagnosed disease, but to promote faster growth and compensate for unsanitary living conditions. In 2003, the U.S. Institute of Medicine/ National Academy of Science stated that "substantial efforts must be made to decrease inappropriate overuse [of antibiotics] in animals and agriculture" and that decreasing "antimicrobial use in human medicine alone will have little effect on the current [antibiotic-resistant] situation." Delaying action only exacerbates the problem.

As individuals, we join with the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Nurses Association and many other public health organizations. Please support the Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act and undertake all measures necessary to ensure its ultimate enactment.

Sincerely,

ALABAMA

Paula Gasser, RN; Birmingham, AL
 Elisa Mejia, RN BSN/BA Infection Preventionist;
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 Mariann Schmitz, MPH, CIC; Birmingham, AL
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 Thomas Hodges, CHMM; Opelika, AL
 Helen Wilson, RN, MSN; Wetumpka, AL

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 Michelle Dorsey, MD; Mesa, AZ
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 Julie Spelman, RD MBA; peoria, AZ
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 Karen Peterson, ; Phoenix, AZ
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 Barbara Warren, MD, MPH; Tucson, AZ

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A R, ; Baltimore, MD
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Katherine Smith, ; Baltimore, MD
Robin Spence, RD, LDN; Baltimore, MD
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Penelope Paul, RN; Catonsville, MD
Kim Rencewicz, ; Catonsville, MD
Rob Rencewicz, ; Catonsville, MD
Denise Pudinski, ; Chester, MD
carol bowman, md; churchville, MD
Laura Evans, RN, MPH; Columbia, MD
Katherine McCune, RN, CNM, MS;
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jane rhule, RN; edgewater, MD

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Molly Hauck, ; Kensington, MD
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Mooria Burcheci, ; Seattle, WA
Anne Buzzelli, MS, RD; SEattle, WA
Ashley Demaline, RN; Seattle, WA
Leticia Descargar, ; Seattle, WA
Rebecca Finkel, ; Seattle, WA
Michelle Forrest, ; Seattle, WA
Alethea Fournier, RN; Seattle, WA
Risa Halford, RN; Seattle, WA
David Hall, MD; Seattle, WA
Laura Hart, MD; Seattle, WA
Mary Susan Heffernan, RN-BC, MN; Seattle, WA
Peter Jewell, BSN RN; Seattle, WA
Candace Johnson, ; Seattle, WA
Trina Kaufman, MS; Seattle, WA
Amelie Mabbutt, RN; Seattle, WA
Lily Y Pang, RN; Seattle, WA
Marley Peale, ; Seattle, WA
Ofilia Poponut, ; Seattle, WA
Kirsten Rayor, RN; Seattle, WA
Cheryl Robinson, RN; Seattle, WA
Teresa Sherwood, ; Seattle, WA
Travis Sherwood, ; Seattle, WA
Tamara Sullivan, ; Seattle, WA
Lana Tyer, Rn; Seattle, WA
Catherine Webb, ; Seattle, WA
Jenna Umbriac, dietetic student; Shoreline, WA
Maria Umbriac, ; Shoreline, WA

Melissa Murphy, RN, BSN; Spanaway, WA
Julie Postma, PhD RN; Spokane, WA
Nancy Picou, LPN; Tacoma, WA
Bradley Thompson, RN; Tacoma, WA
Mary DeVany, CSP, CHMM; Vancouver, WA
stan freidberg, MD; Vancouver, WA
Linda Herbert, RN; Walla Walla, WA
Paul Moyer, PA, RN, MPH.; White Salmon, WA
Jean Mendoza, RN, BSN; White Swan, WA
Barbara Bjarnason, ; Woodinville, WA
Andrea Sheahan, ; Woodinville, WA
Joan Beads, ; , WA

WISCONSIN

Brenda Leigh, MS,RD; Appleton, WI
Shannon Meltz, RN; Appleton, WI
Sandy Panzer, RN MSN; Appleton, WI
Karlyn Raddatz, BA, RN-BSN; Appleton, WI
Allison Weyenberg, ; Appleton, WI
Amy Miller, RD, CD; Black Earth, WI
patricia Finder-Stone, RN,MS, RN, MS; De Pere, WI
Tara Wood, PharmD; Fennimore, WI
Judith Stadler, RD; Fitchburg, WI
Jesse Charles, MD candidate; Green Bay, WI
Lori Hartz, MS, RD; Greenville, WI
Lillian Nordin, FNP; Holmen, WI
Patty Van Beek, RN, MS; Hortonville, WI
Christine Immel, D.T.R.; Kewaskum, WI
Kathryn Lammers, MS, RN; LaCrosse, WI
Diane Cozzi, MSN, RN; Lake Geneva, WI
Jenna Palosaari, RN; Lodi, WI
Ingrid Andersson, RN, CNM, MSN; Madison, WI
Barb Bickford, ; Madison, WI
deborah burns, ; Madison, WI
Rachel Olson, RN; Madison, WI
Rian Podein, MD; Madison, WI
Patrice Udelhofen, NP; Madison, WI
sherry grandaw, ; marinette, WI
Sue Meyer, RN; Marshfield, WI
Frances Stahl, MS, LCSW; Menasha, WI
Mary Blakewell, ; Neenah, WI
Betty Koepsel, RN, MSN; Oconomowoc, WI
Belinda DeGoey, BSN; Oshkosh, WI
patty Kandiko, Public Health Nurse; Oshkosh, WI
mary vils, MS, ATC; oshkosh, WI
Arlene McEntegart, Nurse Practitioner; Racine, WI
Ellen Martin, PT; Random Lake, WI
sue wright, rn; south range, WI
Gail Baldwin, MD; Superior, WI
Lois Taylor, MA, RN; Trempealeau, WI
Charlotte Smith, R. Ph. (Pharmacist);
Wauwatosa, WI

Laura Grant, RN; West Bend, WI
Donna Groth, RN; West Bend, WI
Doug Petsch, sales; West Bend, WI
Jan Path, RN BSN; Wilton, WI
Paulette Stoltzmann, RN; Winnebago, WI
Mary Jo Turner, RN, Public Health Nurse;
Winnebago, WI

WEST VIRGINIA

Rebecca Foster, RD; Clarksburg, WV
Barbara Hartman, MS, RD, LD; Kearneysville, WV
Kendra Stoen, MS, RD; Morgantown, WV

WYOMING

Bonita Maddex, RD; Jackson, WY

Healthy Food in Health Care Pledge

This Healthy Food in Health Care Pledge is a framework that outlines steps to be taken by the health care industry to improve the health of patients, communities and the environment.

As a responsible provider of health care services, we are committed to the health of our patients, our staff and the local and global community. We are aware that food production and distribution methods can have adverse impacts on public environmental health. As a result, we recognize that for the consumers who eat it, the workers who produce it and the ecosystems that sustain us, healthy food must be defined not only by nutritional quality, but equally by a food system that is economically viable, environmentally sustainable, and supportive of human dignity and justice. We are committed to the goal of providing local, nutritious and sustainable food.

Specifically, we are committed to the following healthy food in health care measures for our institution. We pledge to:

Increase our offering of fruit and vegetables, nutritionally dense and minimally processed, unrefined foods and reduce unhealthy (trans and saturated) fats and sweetened foods.

Implement a stepwise program to identify and adopt sustainable food procurement. Begin where fewer barriers exist and immediate steps can be taken, such as the adoption of rBGH free milk, fair trade coffee, or selections of organic and/or local fresh produce in the cafeteria.

Work with local farmers, community-based organizations and food suppliers to increase the availability of fresh, locally-produced food.

Encourage our vendors and/or food management companies to supply us with food that is produced in systems that, among other attributes, eliminate the use of toxic pesticides, prohibit the use of hormones and non-therapeutic antibiotics, support farmer and farm worker health and welfare, and use ecologically protective and restorative agriculture.

Communicate to our Group Purchasing Organizations our interest in foods whose source and production practices (i.e. protect biodiversity, antibiotic and hormone use, local, pesticide use, etc) are identified, so that we may have informed consent and choice about the foods we purchase.

Develop a program to promote and source from producers and processors which uphold the dignity of family, farmers, workers and their communities and support sustainable and humane agriculture systems.

Educate and communicate within our system and with our patients and community about our nutritious, socially just and ecologically sustainable healthy food practices and procedures.

Minimize and beneficially reuse food waste and support the use of food packaging and products that are ecologically protective.

Report annually on implementation of this Pledge.

Signed

Date



NORTHEAST

Baystate Health, MA
 Berkshire Medical Center, MA
 Bon Secours Health System, Warwick, NY
 Bon Secours Charity Health System:
 Good Samaritan Hospital of Suffern, NY
 Community Hospital, Port Jervis, NY
 Boston Medical Center, Boston, MA
 Brattleboro Memorial Hospital, VT
 Bridgeport Hospital, Bridgeport, CT
 The Center for Discovery, NY
 Cheshire Medical Center, Dartmouth-Hitchcock,
 Keene, NH
 Cooley Dickinson Hospital, MA
 Covenant Health Systems:
 Maristhill Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, MA
 Mary Immaculate Health/Care Services, MA
 St. Mary's Health System, MA, including:
 St. Mary's Residences
 St. Mary's d'Youville Pavilion
 St. Mary's Regional Medical Center
 St. Andre Health Care Facility, ME
 St. Joseph Healthcare Nashua, NH
 St. Joseph Manor Health Care, MA
 St. Mary Health Care Center, MA
 St. Mary's Villa, PA
 Youville Hospital & Rehabilitation Center, MA
 Youville House, MA
 Youville Place Assisted Living Residence, MA
 Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, NH
 Fairview Hospital, MA
 Fletcher Allen Health Care, VT
 Lawrence and Memorial Hospital, CT
 Lincoln County Healthcare:
 St. Andrews Hospital & Healthcare Center, ME
 Miles Memorial Hospital, ME
 Littleton Regional Hospital, NH
 Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, NY
 Metro West Medical Center:
 Framingham Union Hospital, MA
 Leonard Morse Hospital, MA
 Mid Coast Health Services:
 Mid Coast Hospital, ME
 Mid Coast Senior Health Center, ME
 Thornton Oaks Retirement Community, ME

Milford Regional Medical Center, MA
 Mt. Ascutney Hospital & Health Center, VT
 New Milford Hospital, CT
 Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital, VT
 Olean General Hospital, NY
 The Orchard Nursing and Rehabilitation Centre, NY
 Parkview Adventist Medical Center, ME
 Porter Medical Center, VT
 Regeis Care Center, NY
 Rutland Regional Medical Center, VT
 Schervier Nursing Care Center, NY
 Shriners Hospital for Children, MA
 Southwestern Vermont Health Care,
 Bennington, VT
 Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital, MA

MID-ATLANTIC

Abington Memorial Hospital, PA
 Anne Arundel Medical Center, MD
 Baltimore Washington Medical Center, MD
 Bon Secours Baltimore Hospital, MD
 Calvert Memorial Hospital, MD
 Carroll Hospital Center, MD
 Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC, PA
 Christiana Care Health Systems:
 Christiana Hospital, DE
 Wilmington Hospital, DE
 Cooper University Hospital, NJ
 Geisinger Health System, PA
 Georgetown University Hospital, DC
 Hackensack University Medical Center, NJ
 Holy Redeemer Health System, PA
 Howard County General Hospital, MD
 LifeBridge Health:
 Courtland Gardens Nursing & Rehabilitation Home, MD
 Levindale Hebrew Geriatric Center and Hospital, MD
 Northwest Hospital, MD
 Sinai Hospital, MD
 Long View Nursing Home, MD
 Mercy Medical Center, MD
 Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital, MD
 Northwest Health and Rehab Center, MD
 Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, MD
 Sinai Hospital, MD
 Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, PA
 Union Hospital of Cecil County, MD

University of Maryland Medical Center, MD
Washington Adventist Hospital, MD

SOUTHEAST

Baptist Health South Florida:
Baptist Hospital, FL
Doctors Hospital, FL
Homestead Hospital, FL
Mariners Hospital, FL
South Miami Hospital, FL
Bon Secours Hampton Roads:
DePaul Medical Center, VA
Mary Immaculate Medical Center, VA
Maryview Medical Center, VA
Bon Secours Richmond Health System:
Bon Secours St. Mary's Hospital, Richmond, VA
Memorial Regional Medical Center, Mechanicsville, VA
Richmond Community Hospital, VA
St. Francis Medical Center, Midlothian, VA
Bon Secours St. Francis Health System:
St. Francis Downtown, SC
St. Francis Eastside, SC
Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, GA
INOVA Alexandria Hospital, VA
Mission Hospitals, NC
Reston Hospital Center, VA
St. Mary's of Campbell County, Lafollette, TN

MIDWEST

Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital, IL
Advocate Christ, IL
Advocate Health Care:
Advocate Bethany Hospital, IL
Advocate Christ Medical Center, IL
Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center, IL
Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, IL
Advocate South Suburban Hospital, IL
Advocate Trinity Hospital, IL
Good Samaritan Hospital, IL
Good Shepherd Hospital, IL
Altom Memorial Hospital, IL
Aurora Health Care:
Aurora BayCare Medical Center, WI
Aurora Lakeland Medical Center, WI
Aurora Medical Center, Hartford, WI
Aurora Medical Center, Kenosha, WI
Aurora Medical Center, OshKosh, WI

Aurora Medical Center, Two Rivers, WI
Aurora Memorial Hospital of Burlington, WI
Aurora Psychiatric Hospital, WI
Aurora Sheboygan Memorial Medical Center, WI
Aurora Sinai Medical Center, WI
Aurora St. Luke's Medical Center, WI
Aurora St. Luke's South Shore, WI
Aurora West Allis Medical Center, WI
Bartels Lutheran Retirement Community, IA
Bon Secours Kentucky Health System:
Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital, Ashland, KY
Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe, MI
Borgess Medical Center, Kalamazoo, MI
Bronson Methodist Hospital, MI
Cancer Treatment Center of America at Midwestern
Regional Medical Center, IL
Cass County Memorial Hospital, IA
Chelsea Community Hospital, MI
Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota, MN
Cleveland Clinic:
Cleveland Clinic Main Campus, OH
Euclid Hospital, OH
Fairview Hospital, OH
Hillcrest Hospital, OH
Huron Hospital, OH
Lakewood Hospital, OH
Lutheran Hospital, OH
Marymount Hospital, OH
South Pointe Hospital, OH
Drake Center, OH
Galesburg Cottage Hospital, IL
Hennepin County Medical Center, MN
Henry Ford Health System, MI
Henry Ford West Bloomfield, West Bloomfield, MI
Hopedale Medical Complex, IL
HospiceCare Inc., WI
Illini Community Hospital, IL
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Monroe, MI
Marquette General Hospital, MI
Memorial Hospital of South Bend, IN
Mercy Medical Center, IA
Metro Health Hospital, MI
Northern Michigan Regional Health System,
Petoskey, MI
Pana Community Hospital, IL

Ridgeview Medical Center, Waconia, MN
 River Falls Area Hospital, WI
 Sacred Heart Hospital, Eau Claire, WI
 Sparrow Health System, Lansing, MI
 Spectrum Health System, MI
 St. Elizabeth Healthcare:
 St. Elizabeth Covington, KY
 St. Elizabeth Medical Center, KY
 St. Elizabeth North, KY
 St. Elizabeth Florence, KY
 St. Elizabeth Ft. Thomas, KY
 St. Elizabeth Grant County, KY
 St. Joseph Mercy Health System, MI
 St. Luke's Hospital, MN
 St. Nicholas Hospital, WI
 St. Vincent Hospital, WI
 Swedish Covenant Hospital, IL
 Valley West Community Hospital, IL
 Waukesha Memorial Hospital, WI
 Weiss Memorial Hospital, IL
 West Hospital, IA
 Winona Health, MN

NORTHWEST

Cascade Healthcare Community:
 St. Charles Medical Center, Bend, OR
 St. Charles, Redmond, OR
 Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center, WA
 Good Shepherd Medical Center, OR
 Island Hospital, WA
 Kaiser Atrium Cafe, OR
 Kaiser Sunnyside Medical Center, OR
 Kootenai Medical Center, ID
 Legacy Health System:
 Legacy Emanuel Hospital & Health Center, OR
 Legacy Emanuel Children's Hospital, OR
 Legacy Good Samaritan Hospital & Medical Center, OR
 Legacy Meridian Park Hospital, OR
 Legacy Mount Hood Medical Center, OR
 Legacy Salmon Creek Hospital, OR
 MultiCare Health System:
 Tacoma General Hospital, WA
 Mary Bridge Children's Hospital, WA
 Allenmore Hospital, WA
 Covington Outpatient Center, WA

Northwest Hospital & Medical Center, WA
 Oregon Health and Science University Hospital, OR
 Overlake Hospital Medical Center, WA
 Shriners Hospital for Children, OR
 St. Luke's Wood River Medical Center, ID
 St. Patrick Hospital and Health Sciences Center, MT
 Swedish Medical Center:
 Swedish Cherry Hill, WA
 Swedish First Hill, WA
 Swedish Ballard, WA
 University of Washington Medical Center, WA

CALIFORNIA

Bakersfield Memorial Hospital, CA
 Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian, Newport Beach, CA
 John Muir Health System
 John Muir Health, Concord Campus, CA
 John Muir Health, Walnut Creek Campus, CA
 John Muir Behavioral Health Center, CA
 Kaiser Permanente, including 32 facilities in CA, CO, GA, HI, OH, OR, WA
 Sharp Coronado Hospital, CA
 St. Joseph Health System
 Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital (3 campuses), CA
 Petaluma Valley Hospital, CA
 St. Jude Medical Center, CA
 St. Joseph Hospital, CA
 St. Mary Medical Center, CA
 UCSF Medical Center, San Francisco, CA
 Washington Hospital Healthcare System, CA

SOUTHWEST

Catholic Healthcare West System Facilities including 40 facilities in CA, NV, AZ
 Covenant Medical Center, St. Joseph Health System, TX
 Cypress Creek Hospital, TX
 Grand River Medical Center, CO
 Spring Branch Medical Center, TX