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Continua Health Alliance Commends the FCC for Health Care Provisions in its National Broadband Plan

The FCC's National Broadband Plan seeks to support healthcare delivery in the U.S. by extending fixed and mobile broadband access

BEAVERTON, Ore. – March 17, 2010 – Continua Health Alliance recognizes the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for its leadership and foresight in supporting health care delivery in the U.S. by spurring fixed and mobile broadband development as part of its upcoming National Broadband Plan.

The Plan appropriately identifies and makes broad recommendations in four critical areas where the government should take action to help unlock the value of broadband and health information technologies or “e-Care”, including: reimbursement, modernizing regulations, increasing data capture and utilization, and providing sufficient connectivity to better enable the provision of healthcare. The implementation of the Plan would advance connected health and encourage the adoption of remote patient monitoring, thereby making great strides to enable and improve health care outcomes across America.

“The need for policy reform and leadership to usher in the era of connected health is clear,” stated Rick Crossen, president and board chair, Continua Health Alliance. “More than 100 million Americans lack access to basic broadband services, highlighting an urgent need for deployment of fixed and mobile broadband solutions nationwide for both patients and providers.”

Many of the Plan’s provisions call for improvements to the nation’s health care policies and seek to advance the utilization and availability of connected health solutions, which are in step with Continua’s vision: the enablement of a broad ecosystem of connected health devices. Continua looks forward to working with the FCC, Congress and the Obama Administration to further implement the far reaching health care recommendations contained within the National Broadband Plan.

“In the coming decades, broadband will play an increasingly important role in supporting healthcare delivery in America,” said Chuck Parker, executive director, Continua Health Alliance. “The FCC Plan would close the broadband connectivity gap for healthcare providers while aligning the Commission’s efforts with the emerging “Meaningful Use” criteria under development by Health & Human Services.”

About Continua

Continua Health Alliance is a non-profit, open industry coalition of the finest health care and technology companies joining together in collaboration to improve the quality of personal health care. With more than 230 member companies around the world, Continua is dedicated to establishing a system of interoperable personal health solutions with the knowledge that extending those solutions into the home fosters independence, empowers individuals and provides the opportunity for truly personalized health and wellness management. For more information visit: www.continuaalliance.org.

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