



701 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Suite 800
Washington, D.C. 20004-2654
Tel: 202 783 8700
Fax: 202 783 8750
www.AdvaMed.org

A. Scott Whitaker
President and CEO
Direct: 202 434 7200
swhitaker@advamed.org

June 22, 2021

President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC

Dear Mr. President Biden:

On behalf of the more than 400 medical technology companies AdvaMed represents, I would like to thank you and those in the Administration who are working so hard in coordination with our industry to ensure that patients have the care they need throughout these challenging times, and to expedite the deployment of vaccines across the country. In particular, we've appreciated the dedicated work of your COVID-19 response team, which has been working tirelessly to address supply chain bottlenecks and disruptions in order to facilitate our industry's efforts to tackle the pandemic.

When COVID-19 hit our shores, our industry began ramping up to around-the-clock operations, repurposing production lines and retraining and hiring employees, in order to meet the demands of this crisis – from exponentially increasing PPE production to ramping up ventilator manufacturing by more than tenfold to the shipping of more than 1 billion tests in the U.S. within 15 months, to the production of the syringes, needles, and other supplies necessary to get vaccines into people's arms. As a result, our industry has deep experience with and recognizes the extremely complex task of working across multiple agencies to address short-term supply chain challenges associated with the pandemic while developing long-term plans to be better prepared and more resilient in the future.

As the deadline for the Administration's Sustainable Public Health Supply Chain report nears, we would like to draw your attention to the increasingly challenging transport situation that has impeded our companies' ability to deliver healthcare products while also significantly driving up costs. As you well know, the challenges at major U.S. and international ports—including container shortages, limited unloading space and insufficient trucking capacity—continues as purchasing behavior in this country has dramatically shifted during the pandemic.

President Biden Letter

Page 2

June 22, 2021

While we appreciate that multiple industries are affected by these disruptions, we believe the implications for the healthcare system and patient care are imperative as we head into the fall, which brings with it flu season and uncertainty surrounding Covid-19 variants in unvaccinated populations.

We encourage the Administration to make the transport of medical supplies and equipment a top priority as you and your teams think through solutions to the ongoing transport and logistics crisis. Furthermore, we would welcome the opportunity to speak directly with the White House to discuss transport issues impacting manufactures of medical supplies and equipment to share our unique challenges and recommendations for easing some of these bottlenecks and constraints.

Sincerely,

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

Scott Whitaker