



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Assistant Secretary for Export Administration
Washington, DC 20230

February 2, 2021

Mrs. Nikki Bratcher-Bowman
Acting Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Mrs. Bratcher-Bowman:

Thank you for your letter requesting support from the Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) to conduct a series of industrial base assessments related to U.S. Healthcare and Public Health (HPH) preparedness and response capabilities. I concur with the need to improve the U.S. Government's understanding of the overall healthcare supply chain to identify supply chain vulnerabilities and incentivize resiliencies in domestic manufacturing.

BIS is prepared to work with Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) on this multiyear effort, starting with the initial proposed study. We appreciate ASPR's intention to provide the requisite funding and technical support.

Jason Bolton of our Office of Technology Evaluation (OTE) will work with ASPR staff to finalize the necessary paperwork and develop and conduct the studies. Mr. Bolton may be reached at (202) 734-9665 or by e-mail at Jason.Bolton@bis.doc.gov.

We welcome the opportunity to continue our work with ASPR on this critical issue.

Sincerely,

Matthew S. Borman
Acting Assistant Secretary
for Export Administration

