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Pacific Business Group on Health CEO David Lansky Appointed to National HIT Policy Committee

HIT Policy Committee to make recommendations to National Coordinator for HIT for nationwide availability of Electronic Health Record by 2014 and secure electronic data exchange

(San Francisco, Calif.) April 3, 2009 – The US Government Accountability Office (GAO) announced the appointment of David Lansky, Ph.D., to represent the purchaser perspective on the newly established HIT Policy Committee, established under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. As president and chief executive officer of the Pacific Business Group on Health, Dr. Lansky is uniquely positioned to address purchaser concerns while bringing a consumer-centered perspective to using health information technology to improve health care quality, access and affordability.

"Employers recognize that real transformation in health care depends upon modernizing the way doctors and hospitals use information. The new HIT Policy Committee will help set the national strategy and priorities - so it's vital that we bring our voices to the table," said Dr. Robert Galvin, Director of Global Healthcare for General Electric (GE).

The <u>HIT Policy Committee</u> will make recommendations to the National Coordinator for Health IT on the implementation of a nationwide health information technology infrastructure that will:

- Make available a certified electronic health record for each person in the United States by 2014;
- Protect the privacy of health information and promote security in a qualified electronic health record; and
- Allow for the electronic use and accurate exchange of health information.

"This effort will also enable us to improve the collection of quality data and public reporting of performance information," noted Dr. Lansky. "Inevitably, these technologies will also encompass telemedicine and emerging self-service tools that better meet the needs of diverse populations and improve the health of our communities."

Dr. David J. Brailer, the first National Coordinator for Health Information Technology and now Chairman of Health Evolution Partners, said "I am delighted that David Lansky will bring his considerable expertise and leadership to accelerating digital medicine and the many benefits it brings."

Prior to joining PBGH, Lansky was senior director at the Markle Foundation where he helped develop the policy framework for the national health information network and advocated for the full inclusion of consumers in the emerging health information environment. Previously, Lansky led efforts to expand public reporting of patient experience and health outcomes as the founding president of the Foundation for Accountability (FACCT).

PBGH and its 50 major purchaser members represent more than 3 million employees, retirees and their families and billions in annual health care expenditures. A non-profit established in 1989, PBGH partners with leading health plans, provider organizations, consumer groups and other stakeholders to promote higher value in health care.