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Pacific Business Group on Health Appoints New President/CEO and Expands Policy Role

*David Lansky, Ph.D., to Lead Nationally-Recognized Health Care Purchasers Group;
Peter V. Lee to be Executive Director of National Health Policy*

(San Francisco, Calif.) January 31, 2008 – The Pacific Business Group on Health (PBGH) today announced the appointment of David Lansky, Ph.D., as president and chief executive officer of the nationally-recognized nonprofit dedicated to improving the quality and availability of care while controlling costs. He takes the helm from Peter V. Lee, who moves into a new role as executive director of national health policy.

“Dr. Lansky is a proven health care leader with a vision for system transformation that unites a consumer-centered philosophy with an understanding of purchasers’ needs,” said Paul Fearer, Executive Vice President of Union Bank of California and chairman of the PBGH board of directors. “We are privileged to have him join a leadership team with a track record of championing innovative solutions to advance health care quality and accountability.”

“PBGH is uniquely positioned as a catalyst for positive health system change. By giving collective voice to purchaser and consumer interests in promoting value, we can deliver better health care,” said Lansky. “I look forward to being a part of PBGH and its state and national efforts to promote a health care system that is affordable, patient-centered and evidence-based.”

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).

“The next two years mark a vital window of opportunity to reshape our health care system. PBGH and its members see this as a unique chance to engage in state and federal health care reform efforts,” said Lee, reflecting on his expanded policy role. Lee will remain actively involved in stakeholder groups to advance payment reform and promote national standards in quality and efficiency measurement.

During his seven-year tenure as chief executive officer, Lee charted a new course that expanded PBGH’s value-purchasing activities and launched consumer engagement programs that enhanced California’s public performance reporting initiatives and produced user-friendly Internet tools for consumers. In addition to its statewide and national quality measurement activities, PBGH works directly with more than a hundred California medical groups on quality improvement and re-engineering health care delivery.

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.