



August 8, 2018

New York State Department of Financial Services  
c/o Lynda Krebs, Property Bureau – MLMIC Demutualization  
One State Street  
New York, NY 10004

Dear Ms. Krebs:

On behalf of the New York Chapter of the American College of Physicians (NYACP), the largest physician specialty organization in New York State, we write to support the Superintendent's approval of MLMIC's sponsored demutualization.

With 12,000 physicians, residents in training and medical students in New York, as an organization the NYACP conducts about 50 educational programs each year to update physicians covering changes in the practice of medicine, the newest in scientific and clinical research, and best practices for managing adult patients. Internal Medicine serves patients who are mid-late teens through adulthood and senior citizen status. The nature of longitudinal care provided to patients and their families has been the driving factor behind our member services and projects and results in the dedication of our physician members to NYACP. They have a trust in us, and we have trust in MLMIC.

We began our partnership with MLMIC in 2001, and throughout the 18-year history of partnership both in educational activities, to assure clinical skills are at their highest level, and practice support to assure patients receive the highest quality of care, MLMIC and the NYACP have been able to service both general Internal Medicine and sup-specialty practices across the entire state. We believe the alliance with Berkshire will add to the already superb array of services beneficial to practicing Internists, and take us to new levels of support to sustain the physician workforce in New York. As you know, medical liability costs are a major factor in physicians who train in New York leaving for practice opportunities elsewhere, and we believe this transaction will solidify the commitment of MLMIC to bring the best liability coverage at the best rates for our physician members. Adding to this fact would be the A++ Best rating, which assures stakeholders of the financial security of the company and provides comfort as physicians face the turbulence of New York's medical liability environment.

As for customer service and management of claims and inquiries, MLMIC has been a leader in understanding the needs of the busy practitioner and in streamlining the processes to reach the right person at the right time. Not only are claims representatives ready to assist at a time of need with defense, they are there to support practices in prevention of errors and remedial actions. We have conducted many joint programs in risk management, loss prevention and evolving trends in patient

safety. We have had many discussions with MLMIC as to our NYACP work around “near misses” which provide ways to identify errors before they reach patients.

On a personal note, I have seen MLMIC grow from its original creation in response to a crisis of medical liability insurance availability in this State, through a second crisis of affordability of premiums, and through all of the interim actions during difficult times of expanding case law that have resulted in more liability exposure to physicians. We have lived through changing statutory definitions needing clear articulation of impact and practice modifications needed to meet the changing rules. MLMIC has been a partner with the NYACP in all of these areas.

In summing up our support for MLMIC and the Berkshire Hathaway transaction, we can only state that the relationship that already exists, the partnership and creativity in continuing to expand programs and services, and the efforts to empower practices to survive in a tumultuous environment of liability, will only be enhanced with a powerful partner. We strongly encourage the Superintendent’s approval based upon our history of MLMIC’s exceptional service to our NYACP physician members and in anticipation of an even stronger ability to provide on-going stable coverage.

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda A. Lambert". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Linda A. Lambert, CAE  
Executive Director  
New York Chapter, American College of Physicians  
I.M. Research & Service Corp

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