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AdvaMedD_x

A Division of the Advanced Medical Technology Association

News

For Immediate Release

AdvaMed Dx Statement on the Impact of Health Reform on Diagnostics Companies

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Scott Garrett, chairman, president and chief executive officer of Beckman Coulter and chairman of AdvaMed Dx, a division of the Advanced Medical Technology Association (AdvaMed), released the following statement on the impact of health reform on America’s diagnostics companies:

“The health reform bill signed into law by President Obama includes many elements America’s in vitro diagnostics companies have long supported such as expanded patient access to affordable, quality health coverage, greater emphasis on the prevention and management of chronic disease, and a strong focus on combating healthcare-associated conditions.

“While health reform will benefit patients, providers and manufacturers in different ways, we remain deeply concerned about the damaging effects of the excise tax and changes to the Clinical Lab Fee Schedule update on future diagnostics innovation and patient care. This poses a potential threat to innovation and the application of important life science technology to the diagnosis and screening of human disease.

“Diagnostics innovation is critical to protecting patient care. Advanced diagnostic technologies facilitate evidence-based medicine, improve quality of care, enable early detection of disease and reduce overall health care costs. Reimbursement systems should recognize the value of diagnostics and the positive impact that diagnostics have on patient care management and overall public health. We look forward to working with policymakers to ensure that payment system reforms encourage the diffusion and adoption of advanced diagnostic technologies.

“The U.S. has always been a global leader in the life sciences. It is critical Congress and the Administration carefully consider the potential impact of payment and policy changes on future innovation and medical technology progress. No industry is better positioned to lead in job creation and international trade than the diagnostics and device industry.”

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Advanced Medical Technology Association

AdvaMed Dx member companies produce advanced, in vitro diagnostic tests that facilitate evidence-based medicine, improve quality of patient care, enable early detection of disease and reduce overall health care costs. Functioning as an association within AdvaMed, AdvaMed Dx is the only multi-faceted, policy organization that deals exclusively with issues facing in vitro diagnostic companies both domestically in the United States and abroad. For more information, visit www.advamed.org.

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