

**1ATTACHMENT 4a**

**Dear Colleague Letter**

For Million Hearts® Hospital or Health System Recognition Program applications

## Million Hearts® Hospital or Health System Recognition Program

**From:** Million Hearts® Hospital or Health System Recognition Program

**Sent:** <date>

**To:** Million Hearts Partners

**Subject:** Million Hearts® Hospital or Health System Recognition Program

Dear Colleague:

Heart disease, stroke and other cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) kill over 800,000 Americans each year, accounting for one in every three deaths. CVD is the nation's number one killer among both men and women and the leading cause of health disparities across the population.

Fortunately, we know that improving outcomes for those with CVD is achievable. Million Hearts® is pleased to announce the *Million Hearts® Hospital / Health System* Recognition Program, a program that recognizes institutions working to systematically improve the cardiovascular health of the population and communities they serve through the priority areas of: **1) Keeping People Healthy, 2) Optimizing Care, 3) Improving Outcomes for Priority Populations, and 4) Innovating for Health.**

The Million Hearts® Hospitals or Health Systems Recognition program is now open to hospitals and health systems from **summer 2019 through December 2021**. Applicants may range from health systems with multiple hospitals, hospitals with and without ambulatory medical practices, and medical practices not affiliated with hospitals. Any clinical entity whose leaders consider it eligible may apply.

Applications will be reviewed and vetted, and award designations announced, throughout the year. For more information on rules and eligibility requirements, please visit refer to <website>. Questions about the program should be directed to [millionhearts@cdc.gov](mailto:millionhearts@cdc.gov) with "Million Hearts® Hospital / Health System" in the subject line.

Together, we can improve the cardiovascular health of the population, preventing heart attacks and strokes, through the use of cost effective, proven strategies.

Sincerely,

The Million Hearts® Team