



Consortium for  
Universal Health Care  
Credentialing  
(C4UHC)

PRESS RELEASE:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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The Consortium for Universal Healthcare Credentialing (C4UHC) Announces  
Publication of ANSI Standards for Supplier Credentialing

**WASHINGTON D.C. , April 11, 2019** - The Consortium for Universal Healthcare Credentialing (C4UHC), a non-profit organization focused on streamlining the health care industry representative credentialing process, is pleased to announce the publication of ANSI/NEMA SC1-2019 *American National Standard for Supplier Credentialing in Healthcare* by the National Electrical Manufacturer Association (NEMA), a standards development organization.

C4UHC Members, working with NEMA, formed a Canvas Group of healthcare stakeholders to successfully develop the new standard and gain approval from American National Standards Institute (ANSI). The Canvas Group, made up of over 45 healthcare suppliers, providers, and vendor credentialing organizations, observed the ANSI essential requirements of openness, balance, consensus, and due process. C4UHC's Jackie Beigh, Director of Category Management, Supply Chain at Avera Health participated in the Canvas Group. "The NEMA/ANSI standard setting process insured all stakeholders were involved which provided a well-rounded approach to standards development through vetting, review and finalizing." C4UHC's new Consulting Director Dennis Orthman of Access Strategy Partners Inc., said "Standardization increases compliance, drives lower costs for care, ensures access to the best medical products for the patient, and mitigates risks to data privacy information. The Consortium was pleased to partner with NEMA for this development process."

Currently, the U.S. health system's total cost for supplier credentialing, with unstandardized and duplicative credentialing requirements, has been estimated at over \$1 Billion annually. The new

ANSI standardized credentials for representatives, when adopted by hospitals and met by their suppliers, will help reduce cost while streamlining the process to ensure access for suppliers to continue to bring innovative products and services to providers. Adherence to the new standards by suppliers and vendor credentialing organizations (VCOs) will help protect the personal and sensitive information of a supplier's employees.

With a strategic goal of increasing industry awareness and promoting standards adoption by all involved, C4UHC's next steps also include expansion of a national registry pilot program, aligned with the ANSI Standards, which will allow access to validated credentials of supplier representatives.

"The development of *American National Standard for Supplier Credentialing in Healthcare* is an important step towards the goal of interoperability, which is critical to achieving accuracy, efficiencies, and elimination of waste in the credentialing process," said Rhett Suhre, chair of the Canvas Group. "We are confident that we will see the same advancements in supplier credentialing that we have seen in other industries."

[ANSI/NEMA SC 1-2019](#) is available in hard copy and electronic download on the NEMA website or can be accessed via a link on the C4UHC web site [www.C4UHC.org](http://www.C4UHC.org).

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About C4UHC - Consortium for Universal Healthcare Credentialing

*The Mission of the Consortium for Universal Healthcare Credentialing (C4UHC) is to streamline the health care industry representative credentialing process in a manner that will protect patient safety and confidentiality, eliminate duplicative efforts and costs, and meet the needs for both suppliers and health care providers. The Consortium looks to accomplish this goal by solidifying written and data standards for credentialing, promoting adoption of such standards nationwide, and creating an interoperable process to communicate those standards. More information can be found at <http://www.C4UHC.org>*

About ANSI - American National Standards Institute

*The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) has served in its capacity as administrator and coordinator of the United States private sector voluntary standardization system for more than 100 years. Founded in 1918 by five engineering societies and three government agencies, the Institute remains a private, nonprofit membership organization supported by a diverse constituency of private and public sector organizations. ANSI does not itself develop standards. Rather, the Institute accredits standards developing organizations to create and maintain American National Standards (ANS).*

About NEMA - The National Electrical Manufacturers Association

*NEMA represents nearly 325 electrical equipment and medical imaging manufacturers that make safe, reliable, and efficient products and systems. NEMA's combined industries account for 360,000 American jobs in more than 7,000 facilities covering every state. Our industry produces \$106 billion shipments of electrical equipment and medical imaging technologies per year with \$36 billion exports.*