Dear Dr. Arzt,

We are pleased to award HLN Consulting, LLC with the National Vaccine Program Office UpShot Award for Excellence in Vaccine Supply, Access, and Use. As the Acting Director of the National Vaccine Program Office and Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health within the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, it is my honor and great pleasure to recognize your work as an example of the very best in advancing the vaccine and immunization system.

It was inspiring to read the nominations—which illuminated the diverse constellation of partners and perspectives at the heart of the advancing the National Vaccine Plan. Most importantly, it underscored our shared focus and ultimate goal: to save lives through vaccines and immunization.

HLN Consulting’s efforts on the Immunization Calculation Engine (ICE) are impressive. This powerful tool—including its open-source nature and seamless integration into clinical workflows—holds great promise for improving clinical decision-support and ultimately vaccination rates. Thank you for daring to innovate, collaborate, and lead in an area that is not only complex, but constantly evolving.

An interagency review panel, with representatives from the leading federal agencies working to improve the immunization system agreed that the work outlined in the nomination submission represents the highest level of excellence. On behalf of the National Vaccine Program Office and our federal partners, I applaud you for your exemplary efforts. It is an honor to be selected for this award and I anticipate your work will spur further innovation, collaboration, and success.

The 2010 National Vaccine Plan begins with a quote from Albert Einstein: “To raise new questions, new possibilities, to regard old problems from a new angle, requires creative imagination and marks real advance in science.” Thank you for your imagination and dedication. I am proud to recognize the important work you’ve done to improve access and use of recommended vaccines.

Best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

Jewel Mullen, MD, MPH, MPA
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health,
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health,
Acting Director, National Vaccine Program Office
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

May 22, 2017