



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **MSMA Launches Statewide Health Information Exchange to Improve Patient Care and Efficiency**

JACKSON, Miss. – The Mississippi State Medical Association (MSMA) has partnered with KONZA, a trusted organization with a history of providing patient data and technology solutions to healthcare providers, to establish The Mississippi Health Access Exchange (MHAX), a physician-led statewide electronic Health Information Exchange.

Through this HIE, physicians and other clinicians can securely share critical patient information at the point of care, supporting improved care quality and better patient health outcomes. Patients can easily view their medical information from participating providers on one secure patient portal, while physicians and other clinicians can more easily meet quality reporting obligations under the emerging performance and value-based payment systems adopted by federal and commercial health plans.

"MSMA is excited to facilitate this physician-led effort with an advisory council comprised of physician leaders," said Dr. Claude Brunson, MSMA Executive Director. "This physician-led approach will aid in alleviating unnecessary burdens on both physicians and patients, through the sharing of clinical information at the point-of-care. We are confident that MHAX will drastically improve the sharing of clinical data and drive improvements in patient care, while supporting the independence of our member physicians in the newly emerging health care environment."

Committee members include:

- **Dr. Bryan Batson**, *Chief Executive Officer, Hattiesburg Clinic*
- **Dr. Claude Brunson**, *Executive Director, Mississippi State Medical Association*
- **Dr. Jennifer Bryan**, *Family Practice Physician, St. Dominic's Family Medicine and Board Chair, Mississippi State Medical Association Board of Trustees*
- **Dr. Bill Grantham**, *Medical Director of MEA Medical Clinic and Past*
- **Dr. Clay Hays**, *President and Interventional Cardiologist, Jackson Heart Clinic and Immediate Past President, Mississippi State Medical Association*
- **Dr. Vonda Reeves**, *Partner/Shareholder, Gastrointestinal Associates, PA*



"As one of the largest medical record exchange networks in the nation, KONZA is thrilled to welcome the members of the Mississippi State Medical Association and the Mississippi Health Access eXchange to the KONZA Network. It is an honor to partner with a member organization of such distinction, and we look forward to supporting their mission of maintaining quality patient care in Mississippi. " said Laura McCrary Ed.D, President and CEO of KONZA.

For more information about this partnership and participant benefits, visit [mhax.org](http://mhax.org).

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#### ***About the Mississippi State Medical Association***

The Mississippi State Medical Association is the largest physician advocacy organization in Mississippi, representing nearly 5,000 physicians and medical students. Since 1856, MSMA has been a trusted health policy leader and professional development resource for physicians, representing the unified voice of physicians statewide on state and federal health care issues while providing information needed to navigate health care legislation and regulatory changes.

#### ***About KONZA***

KONZA operates exchanges in multiple states, including the Kansas Health Information Network in Kansas and SHINE of Missouri in Missouri. KONZA is deeply committed to connecting healthcare providers, patients, health plans, and our technology partners together to organize healthcare data into information that will drive healthcare transformation. Patients, health plans, physicians, healthcare facilities, and other healthcare providers from across the country benefit from KONZA's delivery of unequalled actionable intelligence. For more information, visit [www.konza.org](http://www.konza.org).