

## NORTHEAST KENTUCKY REGIONAL HEALTH INFORMATION ORGANIZATION

from the desk of Carolyn S. Brunelle.....

129 East Main Street Suite 3 Morehead, Kentucky 40351

Phone: 855-385-2089 X 301 Direct: 606-824-0481 Cell: 606-316-0506 E-mail: c.brunelle@nekyrhio.org

## Group Purchasing Organization Broad Definition

A group purchasing organization (GPO); is an entity that is created to leverage the purchasing power of a group or network to obtain discounts from vendors based on the collective purchasing power of the GPO members. GPO companies are industry specific.

Health Industry Group Purchasing Association (HISCI) and Healthcare Supply Chain Association (HSCA) act as the overseeing body for most Healthcare GPO, vendors and related companies. It is strictly a voluntary basis to become part of these associations; however doing so aligns its GPO members with a common mission of advocacy, education, ethics, information and liaison. This research has determined that selecting a company with the above associations is preferable due to others lack of similar ethics standards.

## **The NeKY RHIO Group Purchasing Organization**

The NeKY RHIO GPO was created for the sole purpose of combining the purchasing power of our individual members to create leverage that had not existed prior to its development. By consolidating our purchasing power, all our members can enjoy discounted pricing from the supply companies that are used everyday.

Our small, local Northeastern Kentucky providers should have the same privileges as any provider anywhere else in the United States. With the resources and expertise of NeKY RHIO that is now possible for our members.