

Company: Premier Inc.

Company Description: Premier is a leading healthcare improvement company uniting an alliance of more than 4,350 U.S. hospitals and health systems and approximately 325,000 continuum of care providers to transform healthcare. Premier enables healthcare organizations with cutting-edge data, technology, advisory services and group purchasing to enable better, smarter and faster care.

Nomination Category: Thought Leadership Categories

Nomination Sub Category: Female Thought Leader of the Year - Business Products

Nomination Title: Soumi Saha, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs



1. Briefly describe the nominated individual: history and past performance (up to 200 words):

Total 198 words used.

Soumi Saha is the Senior Vice President of Government Affairs at Premier Inc. – a leading healthcare improvement company uniting an alliance of 4,350 hospitals and approximately 325,000 continuum of care providers to transform healthcare. As a member of the executive team of a publicly traded company, Saha is responsible for developing and executing corporate strategy to advance legislation and regulatory actions that support business growth and address vulnerabilities in our healthcare system. Both a pharmacist and lawyer, Saha is a seasoned healthcare executive known for leveraging her unique background to approach strategic decision-making with a comprehensive, patient-centered perspective.

Given her ability to clearly articulate complex healthcare issues, Saha serves as the primary spokesperson for the company. She regularly represents Premier in national and trade media, speaking engagements and with policymakers and other stakeholders, advancing thought leadership on topics such as supply chain resilience, provider financial viability and healthcare innovation. Her insights have helped position Premier as a trusted, solutions-oriented voice in Washington DC and beyond.

Prior to joining Premier, Saha served as the Director of Pharmacy & Regulatory Affairs for the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy (AMCP) and held positions at Kaiser Permanente and CVS/Caremark.

2. Outline the nominee's thought leadership achievements since July 1 2023 that you wish to bring to the judges' attention (up to 250 words):

Total 225 words used.

Since July 2023, Saha has significantly elevated Premier Inc.'s visibility, credibility, and influence among media, policymakers, and healthcare stakeholders. As a trusted voice for providers in Washington, she has led high-impact advocacy campaigns on issues ranging from Medicare Advantage payment denials to healthcare supply chain resilience, workplace violence, and provider reimbursement.

What sets Saha apart is her integration of thought leadership into Premier's advocacy strategy—using data, storytelling, and media engagement to shape public discourse and policy outcomes. Under her leadership, Premier has become a go-to source for expert commentary on complex healthcare issues.

From July 2023 to present, Saha has been responsible for 750+ earned media placements. Highlights include:

- o National coverage in outlets like *The New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, and *STAT* on supply chain issues, including tariffs and shortages
- o A record-breaking campaign on insurer payment delays, with 100+ media placements and Premier's most-viewed blog (20,000+ views)
- o 10 additional blogs, many ranking among Premier's top-read content
- o A *Health Affairs* article that became one of the journal's top 10-read blogs of 2023
- o Bylines published in *STAT*, *The Well News*, and *MedCity News*
- o 15+ high-profile speaking engagements, including the *Wall Street Journal Health Forum* and the *ViVe 2025 Conference*

Saha's thought leadership continues to drive federal support for critical healthcare programs, influence legislation, and position Premier as a leader in healthcare transformation.

3. Reference any attachments of supporting materials throughout this nomination and how they provide evidence of the claims you have made in this nomination (up to 250 words):

Total 221 words used.

- o Coverage of Premier's advocacy and media campaign on insurer payer denials and delays received extensive media coverage and responses from the federal government:
 - Premier's blogs covering the results of the [2023](#) and [2024 surveys garnered over 20,000 views](#)
 - A [Today Show broadcast citing Premier's payer delay and denial data elevated urgency with the public and policymakers](#).
 - Saha [highlighted](#) the issue during a keynote at [ViVe 2025](#)
- o Saha and her team's work on tariffs has gained a strong media presence:
 - [STAT byline](#)
 - [MedCity News byline](#)
 - [Politico](#)
 - [Modern Healthcare](#)
 - [Axios](#)
- o Health Affairs [named Saha's blog, Health Care Policy In 2023: Five Areas To Watch](#), one of the top 10-read blogs of 2023.
- o Saha continues to be sought as a healthcare supply chain expert by top tier media such the NYT, Washington Post, and WSJ:
 - [The U.S. Is Selling Its Helium. Will Balloons and M.R.I.s Be OK](#)
 - [Tornado Tears Through Pfizer's N.C. Site, Threatening Crucial Drug Supplies](#)
 - [Hospitals Hit With IV Fluid Shortage After Hurricane Helene](#)
 - [IV Fluid Shortage Due to Hurricane Prompts Hospitals to Postpone Surgeries](#)
- o Saha is a sought-after speaker at healthcare events: [WSJ Health Forum](#), [Breakthroughs Conference](#), [McDermott Will](#) & Emery Value-Based Care Symposium - password VBC2023
- o [Saha's byline](#) on reinvesting cannabis taxation dollars to support healthcare innovation demonstrated bold, out of the box thinking.

4. Which will you submit for your nomination in this category, a video of up to five (5) minutes, explaining the achievements since July 1, 2023 of the nominated woman, OR written answers to the questions? (Choose one):

Written answers to the questions

5. If you are submitting a video of up to five (5) minutes in length, provide the URL of the video here, OR attach it to your entry via the "Add Attachments, Videos, or Links to This Entry" link above, through which you may also upload a copy of your video. If you are submitting written answers to the questions for this category, provide them in the spaces below:
6. Explain why the achievements you have highlighted are unique or significant. If possible compare the achievements to the performance of other players in your industry and/or to the nominee's past performance (up to 250 words):

Total 247 words used.

Saha's approach to thought leadership is distinguished by its strategic use of data, scale of influence, and ability to drive change. Saha consistently goes further than simply raising a concern—offering evidence-based, actionable solutions that reflect the experiences of healthcare providers and patients.

Her thought leadership is grounded in four key differentiators:

- o Leveraging data and analytics to inform public discourse
- o Elevating provider, supplier, and patient perspectives
- o Proposing bold, pragmatic solutions often absent from industry dialogue
- o Prioritizing measurable outcomes

For example, when most stakeholders opposed tariffs on medical products, Saha recognized the inevitability of the policy and instead proposed a constructive alternative: reinvesting tariff revenues into healthcare supply chain resilience. Her byline in *STAT* outlined this approach, which has since been echoed by major trade associations and companies—demonstrating her influence in shaping industry consensus. The President an Executive Order aligned with policy asks outlined in the *STAT* byline.

Saha also led a two-year national campaign to spotlight insurer payment denials and delays and its impact on providers and patients. She mobilized more than 500 hospitals to share data, resulting in a record-breaking media campaign: 100+ earned media placements and Premier's most-viewed blog post with 20,000+ views. The work culminated with CMS finalizing new regulations in April 2025 and insurers announcing in June 2025 voluntary changes to their practices to combat denials and delays.

Compared to peers, Saha's work stands out for its originality, reach, and tangible policy impact—positioning her as a leading voice in healthcare transformation.

Attachments/Videos/Links:

[Soumi Saha, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs](#)

[REDACTED FOR PUBLICATION]