American Society of Anesthesiologists

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On behalf of the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA), an educational, research and scientific association representing over 46,000 members, and member of the National Quality Forum (NQF), I am pleased to nominate Lee A. Fleisher, M.D., as a member of the NQF's Consensus Standards Approval Committee (CSAC). The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) has also agreed to support this nomination. I believe that Dr. Fleisher possesses the requisite experience and expertise, including measure development that CSAC seeks.

Dr. Fleisher has served on the ASA Committee on Performance and Outcomes Measurement (CPOM) since 2005 and has chaired the committee since 2008 and will finish his term as chair of the committee in October 2011. CPOM is charged with overseeing initiatives of ASA pertaining to performance and outcomes measurement and developing anesthesiology-related performance measures for submission to NQF, PCPI and PQRI. Through his work on CPOM, Dr. Fleisher has led the development of various anesthesiology measures, including intraoperative temperature management (endorsed by NQF), management of postoperative hypothermia, reduction of post-dural headache through the use of a pencil point spinal needle, treatment of postoperative nausea and vomiting, preoperative fasting status, and treatment of postoperative shivering with meperidine. In addition, he has the led the effort to develop the initial set of measures and demographic information for use by the national anesthesia data registry under development by the Anesthesia Quality Institute (AQI). Finally, Dr. Fleisher received a grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) on Improving Process Measurement in July 2010, a training grant from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) on Critical Care Health Policy Research in July 2010, and a grant from Pfizer on Informing Critical Research Policy Issues in Comparative Effectiveness Research with Sanford J. Schwartz and Mark Pauly from the Wharton School in December 2010.

Dr. Fleisher is highly active in several national and international organizations pertaining to measures, research and health care improvement. Since 2007, Dr. Fleisher has served on the Institute of Medicine's (IOM) Research Priority Inventory Committee. In addition to being a fellow of both organizations, he is the current Chair of the American Heart Association/American College of Cardiology Guidelines on Perioperative Cardiovascular Evaluation before Non-Cardiac Surgery. He served on the American Medical Association's (AMA) Physician Performance Improvement Committee from 2004-2008. Finally, Dr. Fleisher is a member of the Steering Committee of the Surgical Care Improvement Project of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

As a member of the Perioperative Care Steering Committee from 2008-2009 and a co-chair of the Main Patient Outcomes Steering Committee since 2009, Dr. Fleisher also brings experience with National Quality Forum committees and processes.

Dr. Fleisher is the Robert D. Dripps Professor and Chair of Anesthesiology and Critical Care and Professor of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania and his medical degree from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. After completing a surgical internship at the University of Minnesota, he completed an anesthesia residency at Yale University, following which he joined the faculty in 1990. In 1992, he moved to The Johns Hopkins University, where he was Professor and Vice Chair for Clinical Investigation in the Department of Anesthesiology, and held joint appointments in Health Sciences Informatics, Health Policy, and Management and Medicine.

Dr. Fleisher has published more than 200 articles, chapters, books, and abstracts. He has edited several books and monographs, including *Evidence Based Practice of Anesthesiology* and the 5th edition of *Anesthesia and Uncommon Diseases*, Perioperative Medicine: Managing to Outcomes, and associate editor of the 6th edition of *Anesthesia*. Finally, he has presented and lectured on a number of issues, both domestically and internationally, including outcomes evaluation and measurement in cardiac surgery and outcome measurement for ambulatory anesthesia.

If selected to serve on CSAC, Dr. Fleisher is enthusiastically willing to serve and commit to the in-person meetings and conference call schedule required by the Committee.

I am pleased to have the opportunity to submit the nomination of Dr. Lee A. Fleisher for CSAC and hope that NQF will seriously consider his appointment. He is a recognized leader in the field of anesthesiology and provides a diverse and broad experience and expertise that would benefit the important mission of the NQF and CSAC. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Warner, M.D.
President
American Society of Anesthesiologists