American Society of Anesthesiologists

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October 28, 2010

Acting Comptroller General Gene L. Dodaro
GAO Health Care
Attention: PCOR Institute Methodology Committee
441 G Street, NW
Washington, DC 20548

Dear Mr. Dodaro:

The American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA), an educational, research and scientific association representing over 44,000 members, is pleased to nominate Lee A. Fleisher, M.D., for consideration as a member of the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) Methodology Committee. ASA believes that Dr. Fleisher possesses the crucial experience and expertise, including the establishment of research priorities and the implementation of a research agenda that the PCORI seeks.

Dr. Fleisher is highly active in numerous national and international organizations pertaining to outcomes research and evidence-based care. Since 2009, Dr. Fleisher has served as co-chair of the National Quality Forum's (NQF) Main Patient Outcomes Steering Committee. He was elected to the Institute of Medicine (IOM) in 2007 and has also served as a member of the IOM Research Inventory Priority Committee. He has received funding from the NIH and Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality related to clinical trials and evidence-based reports and is currently co-Principal Investigator of a training grant on Critical Care health services research. He has also been appointed to the faculty of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement related to optimal perioperative care. Finally, Dr. Fleisher has a paper accepted on the relationship between process measures and outcomes surrounding surgery and is a co-investigator on an NIH funded grant on improving process measurement.

Dr. Fleisher's clinical interests are diverse and his contributions to the specialty broadbased. In addition to his service to the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA), Dr. Fleisher has served as a member of the Society of Ambulatory Anesthesia (SAMBA) since 1998, and has been a member of SAMBA's Committee on Research since 2003, chairing the committee from 2005-2008. In addition, he has served as a member of the International Anesthesia Research Society since 1990. Finally, Dr. Fleisher has been a member of the Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists since 1990.

In regard to his service to ASA and its members, Dr. Fleisher has served on the ASA Committee on Performance and Outcomes Measurement (CPOM) since 2005 and has chaired the committee since 2008. CPOM is charged with overseeing initiatives of the ASA relating to performance and outcomes measurement. Dr. Fleisher also sits on the ASA Committee on Research, which directs the ASA programs relevant to advancement and dissemination of research.

Dr. Fleisher has been Chair of the Department of Anesthesiology at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania since 2004, and the Robert D. Dripps Professor of Anesthesiology and Critical Care and Professor 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 authored the 2nd edition of *Evidence-Based Practice of Anesthesiology* and has edited *Perioperative Medicine: Managing for Outcome* and *Quality, Safety, Risk and Outcomes in Anesthesiology* in Problems in Anesthesiology. Finally, he has presented and lectured on a number of issues, both domestically and internationally, including on research regarding patient outcomes in anesthesia.

If selected to serve on the PCORI Methodology Committee, Dr. Fleisher is enthusiastically willing to serve and commit to the in-person meetings and hearings required.

We are pleased to have the opportunity to submit the nomination of Dr. Lee A. Fleisher for the PCORI Methodology Committee and hope that the PCORI will seriously consider his appointment. Dr. Fleisher is a recognized leader in medicine and provides a diverse and broad experience and expertise that would benefit the important mission of the PCORI. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Warner

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