



January 18, 2013

Linda Porter, Ph.D.
Health Science Policy Advisor for Pain
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke
National Institutes of Health
31 Center Drive
Bethesda, MD 20892

Re: Nomination for Interagency Pain Research Coordinating Committee, Institute of
Medicine report workgroup

Dear Dr. Porter,

The American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA), representing over 48,000 members, is pleased to nominate Kieran Slevin, M.B., BCh., for the Interagency Pain Research Coordinating Committee (IPRCC) workgroup that will develop a population-level strategy for pain care, as recommended by the Institute of Medicine report, *Relieving Pain in America*. Dr. Slevin is a national advocate for advancing chronic pain management and has focused on aligning payment incentives with evidence-based care. ASA believes that Dr. Slevin possesses the crucial expertise in chronic pain management and reimbursement that the IPRCC seeks as it develops a comprehensive population health-level strategy for pain care.

Dr. Slevin is currently co-director of Interventional Pain and Spine and Chief of Pain and Spine Medicine at Virtua Health System in New Jersey. He previously held an appointment at the University of Pennsylvania where he was an Assistant Professor in the Department of Anesthesiology & Critical Care from 2006-2011, Director of Regional Anesthesia & Pain Services and Director of Fellowship Education from 2010-2011, Director of Acute Pain Services from 2008-2011, and Director of the Medical Student elective rotation in Pain Medicine from 2008-2010.

Dr. Slevin is currently a representative to the American Medical Association (AMA) Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement (PCPI), which identifies and develops evidence-based performance measures for use at the point of care. At PCPI, Dr. Slevin is involved in strategic planning to streamline payment means being discussed at AMA to ensure that quality and value are retained and optimized. Dr. Slevin is also a member of the International Spine Intervention

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January 18, 2013
Page 2 of 2

Society's (ISIS) Socioeconomic Committee where he develops briefs and advises the executive committee on strategic planning for CPT (Current Procedural Terminology), a code set maintained by the AMA describing medical services, and RUC (AMA/Specialty Society Relative Value Scale Update Committee), which makes annual recommendations regarding new and revised physician services to CMS. These positions reflect Dr. Slevin's interest in outcomes as it relates to longitudinal treatment in chronic pain populations as well as establishing evidence-based algorithms of care for many chronic pain conditions using outcomes to direct and establish best practices.

At ASA, Dr. Slevin is a member of the Committee on Pain Medicine, which is charged with studying pain mechanisms and management as well as reviewing and disseminating developments in the field of pain medicine. He is a member of the Educational Track Subcommittee on Pain Medicine and previously served on the Education Committee on Acute Pain and Regional Anesthesia. Finally, he is a member of the planning committee for ASA's continuing medical education (CME) for FDA's Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) on long-acting and extended-release opioids.

ASA is pleased to have the opportunity to nominate Dr. Slevin to the IPRCC workgroup and hopes that the IPRCC will seriously consider his appointment. Dr. Slevin provides a diverse and broad expertise in pain management and payment reform that will benefit the important mission of the workgroup. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John M. Zerwas MD". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the "MD" being particularly prominent.

John Zerwas, M.D.
President
American Society of Anesthesiologists