

## **AOA COALITION AND GROUP MEMBERSHIPS**

### **AcademyHealth**

As the professional society for individuals and affiliated organizations in the United States and abroad, AcademyHealth fosters networking and professional growth among public policymakers, business decision makers, health services researchers, policy analysts, economists, sociologists, political scientists, and clinical students. Academy Health convenes national scientific and health policy conferences, manages major programs that serve the research community, health policy leaders, and business and government decision makers, and advocates for health services research through its Coalition for Health Services Research.

### **Access to Benefits Coalition**

The Access to Benefits Coalition (ABC) was formed to ensure that Medicare beneficiaries with limited means know about and make the best use of all available resources for accessing prescription drugs and reducing their costs. While Medicare Part D is available to individuals aged 65 and older and the disabled, the ABC educates individuals that there is extra help for those with limited incomes.

### **ACPM-AMA National Coalition for Adolescent Health**

The American College of Preventive Medicine (ACPM) and American Medical Association (AMA) National Coalition for Adolescent Health is a group of medical specialty societies, public health organizations, advocacy and research organizations with the purpose to exchange information and collaborate to improve adolescent health. The group is the result of merged coalitions hosted by the American Medical Association and the American College of Preventive Medicine respectively. Meetings are held semi-annually.

### **Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research of the Association of American Medical Colleges**

The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research of the AAMC is a coalition of more than 300 health care organizations. Its mission is to enhance the federal investment in biomedical, behavioral, and population-based research by increasing the funding for the National Institutes of Health.

### **Alliance for Aging Research**

The Alliance for Aging Research is the nation's leading non-profit organization dedicated to supporting and accelerating the pace of medical discoveries to improve the universal human experience of aging and health.

### **Alliance for Better Health Care**

The Alliance for Better Health Care believes that high quality health care requires sound evidence to inform medial decision-making. The Alliance promotes research on the comparative clinical effectiveness of medical items, services, and systems of care, as well as broad dissemination of research findings.

### **America's Health Together and Facing Fear Together**

America's HealthTogether is a partnership of health care organizations that seeks to build national support for affordable health care for all. Another partnership, Facing Fear Together, was established after the events of September 11, 2001. Facing Fear Together seeks to integrate mental health and physical health with an emphasis on helping primary care providers meet the needs of their patients in a time of terrorism.

### **American Health Quality Association**

The American Health Quality Association (AHQA) represents Quality Improvement Organizations (QIOs) and professionals working to improve health care quality and patient safety nationwide. AHQA

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members develop and manage health care quality improvement projects and work with physicians, hospitals, health plans, nursing homes, etc. to evaluate health care systems and share best practices.

### **AMA Bio-terrorism Coalition and Partnership for Community Safety**

These coalitions were created following the September 11th terrorist attacks in an effort to keep the health care community informed about first responder guidance and actions.

### **American Public Health Association**

The mission of the American Public Health Association (APHA) is to improve public health. It represents more than 50,000 members from various public health occupations, including: researchers, health service providers, administrators, teachers, and other health professionals.

### **AQA Alliance** (previously known as the Ambulatory Care Quality Alliance, now just AQA)

The AQA was established in 2004 by the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), the American College of Physicians (ACP), America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP), and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). It is comprised of health care leaders representing clinicians, consumers, purchasers and health plans to improve health care quality and patient safety and to collaborate on creating a strategy for measuring, reporting and improving performance at the physician level.

### **Campaign to End Obesity**

The Campaign to End Obesity (CEO) was established to bring together organizations and individuals to reverse America's obesity epidemic through education, public awareness initiatives, and collaborative programs among stakeholders. Members include professional medical associations, voluntary health associations, and business groups.

### **Children's Health Group**

The Coalition is a group of physician organizations dedicated to improving children's health, increasing access to care for children, and preserving graduate medical education opportunities in pediatrics and pediatric subspecialties. The group dedicates much of its time to improving the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP).

### **Coalition for Affordable Health Coverage (CAHC)**

The CAHC is a coalition of business, health care, insurance, pharmaceutical, and consumer organizations that recognize the need to employ a variety of approaches to reduce the number of uninsured in the United States. It promotes the enactment of tax credits directed to individuals and families for the purchase of private health insurance, as well as other market oriented approaches to extending private health insurance coverage to the uninsured.

### **Coalition for Anabolic Steroid Precursor and Ephedra Regulations (CASPER)**

CASPER supports legislation to regulate dietary supplements that contain steroid precursors or ephedra. The Coalition is comprised of medical associations, public health associations, and sports associations.

### **Coalition for Genetic Fairness**

The Coalition for Genetic Fairness is comprised of advocacy organizations, health professionals, and industry leaders working to educate Congress about the importance of legal protections of genetic information and ensure passage of meaningful genetic information nondiscrimination legislation.

### **Coalition for Health Funding**

The Coalition for Health Funding advocates for funding of all public health programs in medical research, training programs, treatment and prevention.

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### **Coalition for Health Services Research of AcademyHealth**

The Coalition for Health Services Research is the advocacy arm of AcademyHealth. The Coalition provides a unified voice for increased health services research funding. A portion of the annual dues paid to AcademyHealth is directed to the Coalition.

### **Common Good**

Common Good is a bipartisan initiative that seeks to reform America's lawsuit culture. It supports the creation of a special health court as part of a patient-centered health care system. Common Good calls upon leaders from a variety of professions to examine remedies that would result in legislative and judicial changes to the current legal system.

### **Cover the Uninsured Week and Covering Kids and Families of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation**

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and more than 800 national and local organizations are partners to educate Americans about the problems of rising health care costs and the need to provide assistance to the uninsured. *Cover the Uninsured Week* and *Covering Kids and Families* hold annual events across the country to encourage a national dialogue on this issue.

### **DGME Fairness Coalition**

The DGME Fairness Coalition generates support for legislation to increase DGME payment for all hospitals to 100 per cent of the national average.

### **Exercise is Medicine Coalition**

The goal of the Exercise is Medicine Coalition is to make physical activity and exercise a standard part of disease prevention and treatment medical paradigm in the U.S. It will work to have health care providers consider the level of physical activity as a vital sign during each patient visit and counsel patients about their exercise routines. The coalition is organized by the American College of Sports Medicine and the American Medical Association.

### **Friends of AHRQ (AcademyHealth)**

The Friends of AHRQ is a coalition of more than 130 health related organizations. Its mission is to advocate on behalf of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality by educating interested parties on the importance of AHRQ research and requesting that Congress provide adequate funding for the Agency.

### **Friends of Indian Health**

The Friends of Indian Health is a coalition of over 40 health organizations and individuals committed to health care improvement for the American Indian and Alaska Native people.

### **Friends of National Center for Health Statistics (AcademyHealth)**

The Friends of the National Center for Health Statistics is a coalition of health care organizations that advocate for adequate funding for the National Center for Health Statistics, the Nation's principal health statistics agency, within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

### **Graduate Medical Education Coalition**

This is a coalition of physician, medical education, and other health care organizations that focus on issues related to graduate medical education. The coalition specifically focuses on issues related to the utilization of volunteer faculty. The coalition advocates for Congressional intervention into CMS rulemaking that hampers graduate medical education.

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### **Health Care Liability Alliance (HCLA)**

HCLA is a coalition of physician, hospital, insurance, and other health care organizations dedicated to the enactment of comprehensive medical liability reform. The Coalition's bylaws call for enactment of Federal legislation that mirrors California's Medical Injury Compensation Reform Act (MICRA) of 1974, including a \$250,000 limit on non-economic damages. The guiding principles of the coalition are identical to the six PLI Reform principles adopted by the AOA.

### **Health, Medicine and Research Partners of the Society for Women's Health Research**

The mission of the Health, Medicine and Research Partners is to engage the resources of the health care and scientific research professionals in collaboration with the Society to promote advancements in women's health. Members of the Society's HMR Partners include scientific and research organizations, hospitals, and professional medical and health societies. Through collective and individual efforts, the HMR Partners assist the Society in developing its scientific, public policy, and public and professional education programs.

### **Health Professions and Nursing Education Coalition (HPNEC)**

The Health Professions and Nursing Education Coalition (HPNEC) is a group of over 50 multi-disciplinary organizations that share an interest in and advocate for continued support for the health professions and nursing education programs authorized under Titles VII and VIII of the Public Health Service Act.

### **Hospital Association Lobbyist Organization (HALO)**

This group provides a regular meeting opportunity for organizations that represent hospitals and other health care entities to share information and collaborate on issues important to their members.

### **Immunization Action Coalition**

The Immunization Action Coalition works to increase immunization rates and prevent disease by creating and distributing educational materials for health professionals and the public. The Coalition also facilitates communication about the safety, efficacy and use of vaccines across the patient and health care communities and government agencies.

### **Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Roundtable**

The roundtable was established early in 2004 to address to issues and challenges surrounding the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) requirements and guidelines. The roundtable is made up of stakeholders such as the AOA, AMA, American Dental Association, American Hospital Association, Families USA, ACLU and other organizations that represent LEP individuals.

### **Medical Resident FICA Coalition**

The Medical Resident FICA Coalition is a group of medical schools, universities, teaching hospitals, and other organizations that support them in operating medical residency programs. The Coalition was founded to form a position on FICA taxation of medical residents and to work with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to develop appropriate industry-wide guidance for handling refund claims.

### **Medicare Rx Education Network**

The Medicare Rx Education Network provides information and assistance with outreach and enrollment for the new Medicare Part D prescription drug benefit. Former U.S. Senator John Breaux (D-LA) chairs the network. Network members share an interest in educating Medicare beneficiaries about the new benefit.

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### **Medicare Today**

Medicare Today, a subsidiary program of the Health Leadership Council, is a broad-based partnership of organizations representing seniors, patients, health care providers and professionals, employers, and others. The nonpartisan partnership educates and informs Medicare beneficiaries, the media, and the public at large about the new benefits provided through The Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA). Medicare Today partners with other organizations, bringing together their respective grassroots and communications resources for the benefit of beneficiaries.

### **Mental Health Liaison Group**

This is a coalition of physician and other health care organizations dedicated to improving access to mental health services. The coalition pursues the enactment of mental health parity legislation, which would require insurers to provide mental health coverage to beneficiaries.

### **National Alliance for Autoimmune Awareness**

This is a coalition put together by the American Autoimmune Related Diseases Association (AARDA). This coalition links autoimmunity experts and key stakeholders, which includes autoimmune researchers, physicians, patient organizations, and government agencies, and others interested in autoimmune diseases.

### **National Health Council**

The National Health Council's mission is to promote the health of all people by advancing the voluntary health movement. It provides a forum for public policy development and advocacy. It also provides comprehensive public education programs.

### **National Osteoporosis Foundation Interspecialty Medical Council (NOF-IMC)**

The purpose of the NOF-IMC is to provide diverse perspectives on issues of common concern around osteoporosis and bone health relating to professional practice, education, and public policy. IMC representatives serve as ambassadors for osteoporosis within their respective medical professional societies and help their organizations to work, where appropriate, in concordance with NOF and its mission.

### **National Quality Forum**

The National Quality Forum (NQF) is a membership organization created to develop and implement a national strategy for health care quality measurement and reporting. Since health care quality has a significant impact on patient outcomes, workforce productivity, and health care costs, NQF was created as a mechanism to bring about national change.

### **National Rural Health Association**

The National Rural Health Association (NRHA) is composed of individual and organizational members who share a common interest in rural health. Its mission is to improve the health of rural Americans and to provide leadership on rural issues through advocacy, communications, education and research.

### **Partnership for Community Safety**

The Partnership for Community Safety: *Strengthening America's Readiness* is a coalition formed to advocate for strengthening community readiness for biological, chemical, and nuclear terrorism and other disasters. The Partnership for Community Safety calls on federal policymakers to support and sustain comprehensive readiness efforts in the nation's public health departments, emergency departments, hospitals, fire services, ambulance and emergency medical services (EMS) organizations, medical education institutions, and the nursing profession.

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### **Partnership for Prescription Assistance**

The Partnership for Prescription Assistance brings together the pharmaceutical industry and diverse health care organizations to help qualifying patients who lack prescription drug coverage obtain the medicines they need through public or private sector programs.

### **Partnership for Prevention Health Professionals Roundtable on Preventive Services**

The Partnership for Prevention seeks to improve health by preventing illness and injury and by promoting health. The mission of the Health Professionals Roundtable is to help address the gap that exists between the preventive services that are recommended by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force and what the typical primary care patient receives.

### **Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease (PFCD)**

The Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease (PFCD) is a national bipartisan coalition of patients, providers, community organizations, and health policy experts committed to raising awareness of the policies and practices that save lives and reduce health costs through more effective prevention and management of chronic disease. The PFCD is committed to educating the public about chronic disease, mobilizing individuals to call for change in how governments, employers and health institutes approach chronic disease, and challenging policymakers on the health policy changes that are necessary to fight chronic disease.

### **Patient Safety Coalition (PSC)**

The PSC is coalition of physician associations dedicated to advancing patient safety legislation. The coalition actively supports legislation crafted to allow for the voluntary and anonymous reporting of medical adverse events. The reports could then be compiled and analyzed to learn from previous adverse events in an effort to improve the delivery of health care services. In light of today's litigious society, it is essential that efforts be advanced to improve the quality of health care while ensuring that advancements do not come at the cost of increased liability.

### **PhRMA Alliance Development**

PhRMA and several health care organizations work together on issues related to the Medicare prescription drug benefit and overall prescription drug safety.

### **Physicians' Electronic Health Record Coalition**

The American Osteopathic Association is a founding member of the Physician Electronic Health Record Coalition (PEHRC). The Coalition assists physicians, particularly those in small and medium-sized ambulatory care medical practice, in acquiring and using affordable, standards-based electronic health records and other health information technology for the purpose of improving quality, enhancing patient safety, and increasing efficiency.

### **President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports**

The President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports is an advisory committee of volunteer citizens who advise the President through the Secretary of Health and Human Services about physical activity, fitness, and sports in America. The Council is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2006 and the American Osteopathic Association has joined the Council as a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Partner to Get America Moving. The Council is partnering this year with other organizations such as the AOA to highlight the importance of physical fitness, activities, and sports.

### **Rural Health Care Coalition**

This is the working group for National Rural Health Association (NRHA) members with government relations offices in Washington, DC. The group promotes a variety of rural health issues, including physician payment, physician workforce, and access to care.

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### **Together Rx Access**

Together Rx Access is a free prescription savings card for individuals and families without prescription drug coverage developed by several pharmaceutical companies. The AOA and other health care organizations help educate physicians and patients about the program.

### **Trust for America's Health "The Healthier America Project"**

The Healthier America Project was formed to educate the nation about the need for a strong public health system and public policies that are focused on prevention of disease and injury. The guiding principles are that prevention must drive our nation's health strategy; Americans deserve healthy and safe places to live, work, and play; every community should be prepared to meet the threats of infectious disease, terrorism, and natural disasters; and Americans deserve to know that government is doing to keep them healthy and safe.

### **Trust for America's Health Working Group on Pandemic Flu Preparedness**

The Working Group is a broad base of organizations that meets periodically to share information about pandemic influenza and government pandemic preparedness initiatives. It also monitors Congressional and Administration efforts to provide adequate funding for pandemic influenza preparedness.

### **U. S. Chamber of Commerce**

As an Elite member of the U. S. Chamber, the AOA has access to many of the Chamber's resources, receives communications in AOA's areas of interest, and has opportunities to network on behalf of the profession.

### **Women's Health Research Coalition Advisory Committee of the Society for Women's Health Research**

The Women's Health Research Coalition Advisory Committee is an advocacy committee that encourages coordination of and funding for women's health research and for the study of gender-based differences in research. The Coalition is made up of more than 600 health care organizations and individuals.

### **WomenHeart: the National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease**

The purpose of WomenHeart: the National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease is to decrease death and disability among women with heart disease through a variety of educational activities and advocacy.