



**Association of
American Medical Colleges**
2450 N Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037-1127
T 202 828 0400 **F** 202 828 1125
www.aamc.org

April 23, 2009

VIA Federal Express

Maria Ellis
Office of Clinical Standards and Quality
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard
Mail Stop: C1-09-06
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850

Dear Ms. Ellis:

On behalf of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), I write to nominate John Halperin, M.D., for a voting position on the Medicare Evidence Development & Coverage Advisory Committee (MEDCAC). The AAMC represents approximately 400 major teaching hospitals, all 125 accredited allopathic U.S. medical schools, and the physician faculty who work in those environments. The Association also represents 86 professional and academic societies, as well as the nation's medical students and residents.

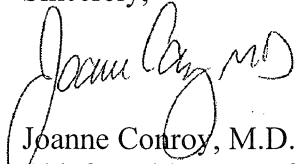
Enclosed is Dr. Halperin's Curriculum Vitae. Dr. Halperin, is the Chair of the Department of Neuroscience at Overlook Hospital, in Summit, NJ. As a physician and professor, Dr. Halperin has a proven record of expertise in clinical and administrative medicine, as evidenced by his appointment as a clinical professor of neurology at New York University School of Medicine as well as his numerous administrative positions as medical director and chairman of the Department of Neurology at several institutions. His extensive research background in neurology and Lyme disease can attest to his expertise in the biological sciences, while his responsibilities on various committees such as the Quality Improvement Committee and the Patient Event Reporting Committee (PERC) demonstrate his commitment to improving the public health of our nation.

Dr. Halperin is willing to serve as a member of MEDCAC. Furthermore, in his letter to the AAMC, he stated that he had no significant conflicts of interest with the possible exception of owning small amounts of equity in Johnson & Johnson & Schering Plough. We are confident that Dr. Halperin would make substantial contributions to the breadth and depth of the issues deliberated by MEDCAC.

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Thank you in advance for your consideration in this matter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Diana Mayes at 202-828-0490.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joanne Conroy MD". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "C".

Joanne Conroy, M.D.
Chief Health Care Officer

Attachment

cc: Karen Fisher, J.D., AAMC
Diana Mayes, AAMC