May 20, 2004

Comptroller General Walker Announces Appointment of Members to the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission

Comptroller General of the United States David M. Walker has appointed three new members and reappointed two members to the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC). The Comptroller General will make an announcement on an additional representative to MedPAC in the near future. The official announcement will be published in the Federal Register.

The newly appointed members are John M. Bertko, F.S.A., M.A.A.A., vice president and chief actuary, Humana Inc.; Francis J. Crosson, M.D., executive director, the Permanente Federation, LLC; and William J. Scanlon, Ph.D., health policy consultant.

The reappointed members are Sheila P. Burke, M.P.A., R.N., under secretary for American museums and national programs, Smithsonian Institution; and Ralph W. Muller, chief executive officer, University of Pennsylvania Health System.

Commissioners whose terms will expire in April 2005 are Nancy-Ann DeParle, J.D., senior advisor, JP Morgan Partners, LLC and adjunct professor of health care systems, the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania; David F. Durenberger, chairman and chief executive officer, National Institute of Health Policy; Carol Raphael, M.P.A., president and chief executive officer, Visiting Nurse Service of New York; Mary K. Wakefield, Ph.D., R.N., director, Center for Rural Health, School of Medicine and Health Sciences, University of North Dakota; and Nicholas J. Wolter, M.D., chief executive officer, Deaconess Billings Clinic.

Commissioners whose terms will expire in April 2006 are Autry O.V. (Pete) DeBusk, chairman, DeRoyal; Glenn M. Hackbarth, J.D., independent consultant; Alan R. Nelson, M.D., special advisor to the executive vice president/chief executive officer, American College of Physicians; Robert D. Reischauer, Ph.D., president, The Urban Institute; David A. Smith, senior fellow, Demos; and Ray E. Stowers, D.O., director of rural health, Department of Family Medicine, Oklahoma State University, College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Following are brief biographies of the new commission members. For further information, contact MedPAC’s executive director, Mark E. Miller, Ph.D., at (202) 220-3700.
John M. Bertko, F.S.A., M.A.A.A., vice president and chief actuary for Humana Inc., manages the Corporate Actuarial group and directs the coordination of work by actuaries in Humana's major business units including public programs, commercial, individual, and TRICARE. Mr. Bertko has extensive experience with risk adjustment and has served in several public policy advisory roles, including prescription drug benefit design. He served on the American Academy of Actuaries as a board member from 1994 to 1996 and as vice president for the Health Practice area from 1995 to 1996. He was a member of the Actuarial Board for Counseling and Discipline from 1996 through 2002. Mr. Bertko has a B.S. in mathematics from Case Western Reserve University and is a fellow of the Society of Actuaries and a member of the American Academy of Actuaries.

Francis J. Crosson, M.D. is the executive director of the Permanente Federation of medical groups that make up the physician component of Kaiser Permanente. He also co-chairs the Kaiser Permanente Partnership Group, the organization’s management committee. He also has experience in connection with prescription drug arrangements. He joined Kaiser Permanente in 1977 and was the Chief of Pediatrics and Assistant Physician-in-Chief of one of Kaiser’s major medical centers. In 1988 he was appointed associate executive director of the Permanente Medical Group and served in that position until his current appointment. He has led efforts on comprehensive public report cards on clinical quality, management of a drug formulary and adoption of a state-of-the-art electronic medical record. Dr. Crosson received his undergraduate degree in political science from Georgetown University and his M.D. degree from Georgetown’s School of Medicine.

William J. Scanlon, Ph.D., is a health policy consultant. Until April 2004, he was the Managing Director of Health Care Issues at the U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO). At GAO, he oversaw Congressionally requested studies of Medicare, Medicaid, the private insurance market and health delivery systems, public health, and the military and veterans' health care systems. Before joining GAO in 1993, he was the co-director of the Center for Health Policy Studies and an associate professor in the Department of Family Medicine at Georgetown University and had been a principal research associate in Health Policy at The Urban Institute. His research at Georgetown and The Urban Institute focused on the Medicare and Medicaid programs, especially provider payment policies, and the provision and financing of long-term care services. He has been engaged in health services research since 1975. Dr. Scanlon has published extensively and has served as frequent consultant to federal agencies, state Medicaid programs, and private foundations. He has a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.
May 27, 2004

Comptroller General Walker Announces Final Appointment to the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission

Comptroller General of the United States David M. Walker has appointed the final new member to the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC). Three new member appointments and two reappointments were announced on May 20, 2004 (see http://www.gao.gov/medpac). The official announcement of all appointments will be published in the Federal Register.


Following is a brief biography of the new commission member. For further information about MedPAC, contact MedPAC’s executive director, Mark E. Miller, Ph.D., at (202) 220-3700. All other calls should be directed to Jeff Nelligan, GAO’s Managing Director for Public Affairs, at (202) 512-8546.

Arnold Milstein, M.D., M.P.H. is the medical director of the Pacific Business Group on Health (PBGH) and U.S. health care thought leader at Mercer Human Resource Consulting. PBGH is the largest health care purchasers coalition in the U.S. Dr. Milstein focuses on performance improvement methods for large health care purchasers and providers, clinical performance measurement, and the psychology of clinical performance failure. Dr. Milstein co-founded both the Leapfrog Group and the Consumer Purchaser Disclosure Project and heads clinical standards setting for both initiatives. Dr. Milstein has a B.A. in economics from Harvard, an M.P.H. in health services planning from the University of California at Berkeley, and an M.D. degree from Tufts University. He is an associate clinical professor at the University of California at San Francisco.