

March 8, 2016

Gene L. Dodaro
Comptroller General of the United States
Government Accountability Office
441 G Street, NW
Washington, DC 20548

Via: MedPACappointments@gao.gov

Subject: Nomination of Gregory J. Przybylski, MD to MedPAC

Dear Mr. Dodaro:

The undersigned organizations are pleased to support Gregory J. Przybylski, MD, for a position on the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC). Nominated by the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) and the Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS), Dr. Przybylski is a practicing neurosurgeon from New Jersey, and his experience and knowledge on healthcare policy would make him an excellent member of the commission.

Dr. Przybylski has been a member of many Medicare-related advisory panels including the Department of Health and Human Services' Practicing Physician Advisory Council and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS) Advisory Panel on Ambulatory Payment Classification Groups. In addition to his government service, Dr. Przybylski has extensive experience as a leader in numerous medical specialty societies, including the AANS, CNS, Council of State Neurosurgical Societies and the North American Spine Society (of which he is a past president).

Since 2001, Dr. Przybylski has served on the AMA/Specialty Society Relative Value Update Committee (RUC), and he is currently its longest serving member. During his tenure on the RUC, he has led several important initiatives. For example, at his suggestion, the RUC created the Professional Liability Insurance (PLI) Workgroup, and Dr. Przybylski served as its first chair. Additionally, he headed up the RUC Pre-service and Post-service Time Workgroup, presided over the RUC/CPT Task Force Evaluation and Management Issues Subcommittee, served as vice-chair of the RUC Relativity Assessment Workgroup (RAW), and is now a member of the newly created RUC Surgical Global Workgroup. In these roles, he has helped achieve consensus on what are often complex and contentious issues.

Dr. Przybylski also appreciates payment policy from the payer perspective. He has served as the chair of the United Health Group Scientific Advisory Board for Spine, the Humana Physician Advisory Board, and the Magellan Spine Surgeon Advisory Group. Most recently, in 2013, he accepted a position as Medical Director for Cigna, giving him unique insight to challenging health policy and payment questions.

Dr. Przybylski has earned the deep respect of his colleagues in the medical profession for his exceptionally strong interpersonal skills and thorough knowledge of the mechanics, policy, and history of Medicare, the Resource-Based Relative Value System and other health care policy topics. Given his this broad experience, we are confident that he would make an excellent member of MedPAC.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Dermatology
American Academy of Neurology
American Academy of Ophthalmology
American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons
American Academy of Pain Medicine
American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
American College of Cardiology
American College of Emergency Physicians
American College of Surgeons
American Gastroenterological Association
American Geriatrics Society
American Pediatric Surgical Association
American Psychiatric Association
American Society for Radiation Oncology
American Society for Surgery of the Hand
American Society of Anesthesiologists
American Society of Breast Surgeons
American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery
American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons
American Society of Neuroradiology
American Society of Plastic Surgeons
American Urogynecologic Society
American Urological Association
College of American Pathologists
Heart Rhythm Society
International Society for the Advancement of Spine Surgery
North American Spine Society
Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions
Society for Vascular Surgery
Society of Gynecologic Oncology
Society of Interventional Radiology
Spine Intervention Society