Angel F. Avendano, MD
Angel F. Avendano, MD, is a bilingual cardiologist with more than 20 years of clinical practice experience. He served as professor of medicine at Universidad Central de Venezuela. He cofounded and directed IDET, a main primary care institution in Venezuela. He has experience in clinical research since 1998 both international and in the United States. His work has been published. His research experience includes hypertension, hepatitis C, and HIV. His main research interests include the metabolic syndrome in HIV, lipid metabolic and cardiac risk factors in HIV, and hypertension.

Jennifer Beaulieu
(BIOGRAPHY NOT AVAILABLE.)

Richard Beswick, PhD
Richard Beswick, PhD, is associate medical director with Roche Laboratories Inc. Previously, Dr. Beswick served as manager of clinical affairs with Johnson and Johnson/Orthobiotech. During Dr. Beswick’s tenure with Orthobiotech, he was involved in new business development and clinical trial development. Born in Montego Bay, Jamaica, he earned a bachelor’s degree in biology from Morehouse College, Atlanta, GA, a master’s degree in cardiovascular physiology from Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant; a master’s in business administration from Rollins College in Florida; and a PhD in molecular renal physiology from the University of Michigan School of Medicine. Dr. Beswick trained with Janice Douglas and Jackson Wright at Case Western Reserve University in the area of endocrinology and receptor kinetics with a focus on angiotensin receptor system in the kidneys of African American patients. Moreover, he has been involved in and has developed numerous protocols for academia and pharmaceutical industry. Dr. Beswick also served as assistant research professor in the Department of Medicine Division of Hypertension at Case Western Reserve University and the Cleveland Clinic.

Catherine M. Bonuccelli, MD
Catherine M. Bonuccelli is vice president of external scientific affairs for AstraZeneca in the United States. She is responsible for building and sustaining medical and scientifically based
relationships with health-care customers, including managed-care companies, academic institutions, employer groups, professional associations, and public-health agencies. Bonuccelli began her career in 1983 with the Johns Hopkins University Department of Pediatrics. In 1994, she joined Zeneca Pharmaceuticals as assistant director, pulmonary therapeutics; she was later appointed medical director, skills development advisor, and global project physician. When Zeneca merged with Astra in 1999, Bonuccelli was named global product director for Accolate. Subsequently she served as business strategist, U.S. drug development, AstraZeneca. Bonuccelli graduated magna cum laude from Georgetown University and earned a medical degree from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. She then completed her internship, residency, research fellowship and clinical fellowship at Johns Hopkins Hospital. Bonuccelli is certified by the National Board of Medicine, the American Board of Pediatrics and its Sub-Board of Pediatric Pulmonary Medicine. Bonuccelli sits on the Board of Directors for the Biotechnology Industry Organization and the Delaware Health Information Network, and the Board of Managers for AI Dupont Hospital for Children.

Senator John B. Breaux

Senator John B. Breaux joined Patton Boggs as Senior Counsel upon his retirement from the United States Senate in 2005. He provides strategic advice to the firm’s attorneys and clients on a wide range of public policy matters, with special concentration in the areas of health care and energy law. He was elected to the House of Representatives in 1972 at the age of 28. He represented the Seventh District of Louisiana for 14 years before being elected Senator in 1986. A senior member of the Finance Committee, Senator Breaux served as the chairman of the Subcommittee on Social Security and Family Policy and served on the Subcommittee on Health Care and the Subcommittee on Taxation and IRS Oversight. From his position on the Finance Committee, he played instrumental roles in forging the compromises that led to passage of the welfare reform and health insurance reform bills in 1996. As chairman of the Special Committee on Aging, Senator Breaux highlighted the importance of protecting and strengthening Social Security, Medicare, and other programs. In 1998 he was selected by the White House and House and Senate leaders to chair the National Bipartisan Commission on the Future of Medicare. Also in 1998, Senator Breaux cochaired the National Commission on Retirement Policy, which produced legislation to help reform Social Security.

John Brockington

An All-American running back at Ohio State under Woody Hayes, John Brockington was the Green Bay Packers’ first pick in the 1971 NFL draft. After an outstanding rookie season, he went on to become the first running back in NFL history to surpass 1,000 yards in each of his first three seasons. A three-time Pro Bowler, he was inducted into the Packers Hall of Fame in 1984. He remains the third leading rusher in team history. When Mr. Brockington suffered kidney failure in 2000, his friend Diane Scott donated her kidney. They married after he had returned to good health. Mr. and Mrs. Brockington direct the John Brockington Foundation to increase organ donation and raise funds for people on dialysis awaiting a transplant. Together with the local organ recovery organization, the foundation is a founding partner of Donate Life San Diego, which helps create donor-friendly workplaces throughout California. Mr. Brockington also works with Del Mar Financial Partners. Mr. and Mrs. Brockington reside in San Diego. Prompted by their own experience with dialysis and transplantation and with help from Mr. Brockington’s former Buckeye and Packer teammates, they host events in Ohio and California to help address our country’s most readily solved health crisis: the transplant waiting list of 94,000 Americans.

Senator Richard Burr

On January 4, 2005, Richard Burr was sworn in to serve North Carolina in the United States Senate. Elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1994, Richard established himself as a
passionate legislator on health care issues and worked to restore accountability to the federal government. As Senator, Richard continues to focus on job growth across North Carolina by working to ensure a robust economic environment and strong public schools. He is dedicated to finding common-sense solutions to increase access to affordable, quality health care for all North Carolina families. He is a vocal advocate for our men and women in the military and their families and for the growing population of veterans across North Carolina. In the Senate, Richard serves on the Senate Intelligence Committee; the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee; the Energy and Natural Resources Committee; the Veterans Affairs Committee; and the Indian Affairs Committee. The son of a minister, Richard and his family moved to Winston-Salem, North Carolina, when he was a young child. After graduating from Wake Forest University, he began his career far from the halls of Congress by spending seventeen years in business with Carswell Distributing, a wholesale commercial products company. He currently serves as a board member of Brenner Children’s Hospital. Richard and his wife, Brooke, have two sons.

Congressman Michael N. Castle

A former deputy attorney general, state legislator, lieutenant governor and two-term governor of Delaware, Mike Castle is currently serving a record eighth term as Delaware's lone member in the House of Representatives. Congressman Castle has played a key role in enacting many important laws that improve the lives of all Americans, including welfare reform, the balanced budget act, the Crime Bill, No Child Left Behind, vocational education, campaign finance reform, medical research and intelligence reform. He is the ranking member on the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education. His priorities include obesity prevention and child nutrition, Head Start and the recruitment of highly qualified teachers. Mike Castle also serves on the House Committee on Financial Services. Mike Castle is also a member of the Republican Main Street Partnership, which he cofounded in 1998 to promote thoughtful leadership in the Republican Party, to serve as a voice for centrist Republicans, and to partner with individuals, organizations and institutions that share centrist values. Mike Castle was born and raised in Wilmington, Delaware, where he currently lives with his wife, Jane. He is a graduate of Tower Hill School, Hamilton College and Georgetown University Law School.

Representative Donna M. Christensen

The Honorable Donna M. Christensen continues to distinguish herself as a leader in the U.S. Congress. As a member serving her sixth term, she is the first female physician in the history of the U.S. Congress, the first woman to represent an offshore territory, and the first woman delegate from the U.S. Virgin Islands. In the 110th Congress, Delegate Christensen serves on the Committee on Natural Resources and on the Homeland Security Committee. She chairs the Natural Resources Subcommittee on Insular Affairs and serves on the Homeland Security Subcommittees on Emergency Communications, Preparedness and Response, and Emerging Threats, Cybersecurity and Science and Technology. Delegate Christensen is a member of the Congressional Black Caucus and chairs the Congressional Black Caucus’ Health Braintrust, which oversees and advocates minority health issues nationally and internationally. She is a member of the Congressional Caucus for Women’s Issues, the Steering Committee of the Congressional Travel and Tourism Caucus, the Congressional Rural Caucus, the Friends of the Caribbean Caucus, the Coastal Caucus, the Congressional Fire Caucus, and the Congressional National Guard and Reserve Caucus. She was born in 1945 and earned a bachelor of science in 1966 at St. Mary’s College in Notre Dame, Indiana. She earned an MD in 1970 from George Washington University School of Medicine in Washington, DC.
Shana Chrustrup, MPH (invited)
Shana Chrustrup, MPH, is health policy director, Minority Health Policy Office, Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee for U.S. Senator Mike Enzi (R-WY). Ms. Chrustrup’s leadership has been instrumental to numerous HELP Committee successes over the past two years, including the renewal of the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act. Her leadership is focused on advancing policies that will improve the quality of health care in America while increasing affordability and expanding access. Ms. Chrustrup joined the HELP Committee in January 2005 and has handled issues related to public health, including domestic HIV/AIDS, global health, women’s health, obesity, cord blood, vaccines, and prevention efforts. Her previous experience includes work as deputy director of legislation for the Washington Office of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and as health policy advisor to Senator Bill Frist (R-TN) on the Subcommittee on Public Health of the Senate HELP Committee. She has also worked as a presidential management intern at the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and as the Truman Summer Intern at the National Institutes of Health Office of AIDS Research. Ms. Chrustrup earned a master’s in public health with a focus of health policy and administration from Yale University, a postbaccalaureate diploma in human biology from Oxford University, and an undergraduate degree in chemistry from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

Carter R. Coberley, PhD
Carter R. Coberley, PhD, is vice president of the Healthways Center for Health Research. Healthways, Inc., is a leading provider of health and care support services designed to improve health and reduce costs. Worldwide, Healthways serves more than 2 million enrollees and the physicians who care for them. Throughout Dr. Coberley’s career he has developed and marketed some of the most sophisticated biomedical analytics systems in the world. These award-winning systems are being sold internationally to the biomedical community and are marketed in more than 32 countries by such corporations as GE Healthcare Systems. He is author of numerous peer-reviewed publications and coinventor of several pending U.S. patents. Dr. Coberley was recruited to Healthways to apply his technology and leadership expertise to the outcomes research and predictive modeling technologies in the Center for Health Research. He currently leads this multidisciplinary team of more than 19 analysts, scientists, business intelligence experts, statisticians, programmers, and public health professionals with more than 300 years of combined health-care analytics experience. Dr. Coberley received his doctorate in biomedical sciences with a specialization in bioinformatics from the College of Medicine at the University of Florida.

Senator Tom A. Coburn, MD
Tom A. Coburn, MD, was elected to the U.S. Senate on November 2, 2004. Dr. Coburn’s priorities in the Senate include reducing wasteful spending, balancing the budget, improving health care access and affordability, protecting the sanctity of all human life—including the unborn—and representing traditional, Oklahoma values. He is a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, the Indian Affairs Committee, and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions. Prior to his election to the Senate, Dr. Coburn represented Oklahoma’s Second Congressional District in the House of Representatives from 1995 through 2001. During his tenure in the House, Dr. Coburn wrote and passed far-reaching legislation, including laws to expand seniors’ health care options, to protect access to home health care in rural areas, and to allow Americans to access cheaper medications from Canada and other nations. Dr. Coburn also wrote a law intended to prevent baby AIDS and a law to renew and reform federal AIDS care programs. Dr. Coburn graduated from the University of Oklahoma Medical School in 1983. He then did his internship in general surgery at St. Anthony’s Hospital in Oklahoma City and family practice residency at the University of
Arkansas, Fort Smith. Dr. Coburn returned to Muskogee, where he specializes in family medicine, obstetrics, and the treatment of allergies.

**Brian D. Coyne**

Brian D. Coyne is Senior Vice President, Federal Government Relations for AMERIGROUP Corporation. AMERIGROUP is a multi-state managed health care company serving low-income families and children, people with disabilities and the elderly through state sponsored programs, including the Medicaid, S-CHIP and Family Care programs. AMERIGROUP operates in nine states and the District of Columbia, and provides health coverage to approximately 1.3 million individuals in these markets. Previous to this position, Mr. Coyne spent the past 10 years in various governmental positions. He served as Chief of Staff of the Social Security Administration from 1994 to 2001. From 1991 to 1994, Mr. Coyne served as Deputy Chief of Staff to Rhode Island Governor Bruce Sundlun. Mr. Coyne has a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Cornell University. He also has a Master in Public Administration Degree from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

**Ronald M. Davis**

Ronald M. Davis, MD, is a preventive medicine physician from East Lansing, MI. He became president-elect of the American Medical Association (AMA) in June 2006. Dr. Davis was elected to the AMA Board of Trustees in June 2001 and reelected in June 2005. He had previously served as the board’s first resident physician member (1984–1987). Dr. Davis received his BS degree from the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor), and his MD degree and an MA degree in public policy studies from the University of Chicago. He is board certified in preventive medicine. Dr. Davis served as director of the Center for Disease Control’s Office on Smoking and Health (1987–1991). He then served as chief medical officer in the Michigan Department of Public Health (1991–1995), and since 1995 has been director of the Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention at the Henry Ford Health System (headquartered in Detroit). Dr. Davis has received many honors, including the Surgeon General’s Medallion, the American Public Health Association’s Jay S. Drotman Memorial Award, the American College of Preventive Medicine’s Distinguished Service Award, the World Health Organization’s World No Tobacco Day Medal and Award, the Society for Research on Nicotine & Tobacco’s John Slade Award, and the American Thoracic Society’s Distinguished Service Award.

**Congresswoman Diana DeGette**

Chief Deputy Whip Diana DeGette is serving her sixth term in the U.S. Congress representing the First District of Colorado and is the senior member of the Colorado delegation. She is the vice chair of the Committee on Energy and Commerce and a member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health, the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, the Subcommittee on Environment and Hazardous Materials, and the Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection. In addition, she is the co-chair of the Congressional Diabetes Caucus and the Bipartisan Congressional Pro-Choice Caucus. Rep. DeGette has become one of Congress’ leading experts on cutting-edge scientific research and is the author of the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act. She has led efforts to expand the State Children’s Health Insurance Program, which provides health insurance to low-income children up to age 18. As cochair of the Congressional Diabetes Caucus, Rep. DeGette has also been a longtime advocate for expansion of diabetes care and research, particularly for lower-income and minority communities. As a member of the Oversight and Investigation Subcommittee, Rep. DeGette has taken the lead on a variety of investigations, including the National Institutes of Health ethics guidelines, the safety of the diet supplement ephedra and child exploitation over the Internet.
Dennis E. Doherty, MD, FCCP

Dennis E. Doherty, MD, FCCP, is a professor of medicine and chief of the Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine and medical director of respiratory care services at the University of Kentucky Chandler Medical Center and the Lexington Veteran’s Administration Medical Center. He completed his medical school training and internal medicine residency at the Ohio State College of Medicine in Columbus in 1983 and his pulmonary and critical care fellowship at the University of Colorado Medical Center and National Jewish Medical and Research Center in Denver, Colorado, where he remained on faculty for 11 years. In 1996 he relocated to the University of Kentucky to serve as chief of the Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine Division. Dr. Doherty has been principal investigator on over 35 grants from the National Institutes of Health, the Veterans Administration, the American Lung Association, and other granting organizations for basic science and clinical studies, and he has published over 100 articles, abstracts, and chapters on the subjects of acute lung inflammation, chronic lung inflammation, obstructive lung disease, and pulmonary fibrosis. He has also conducted several clinical research studies in the areas of asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and pulmonary fibrosis.

Woody Eisenberg, MD, FACP

Woody Eisenberg, MD, FACP, is Medco Health Solutions’ vice president for senior solutions and chief medical officer, Medicare. He joined Medco in July 2004 as vice president for clinical management products. In 2006, Dr. Eisenberg became chief medical officer for the Medicare Department, responsible for utilization management, coverage authorization, formulary products, medication therapy management, and Medicare policy. From 2000 to 2004, Dr. Eisenberg was part of the Managed Markets Division at GlaxoSmithKline, initially as regional medical director, and subsequently as medical director for strategic managed care organizations. From 1996 to 2000, Dr. Eisenberg served as medical director for utilization management and as senior medical director for medical policy, disease management, and pharmacy services at Oxford Health Plans. Dr. Eisenberg received a BS degree from Albany State University and an MD from New York University’s School of Medicine. He performed his residency and fellowship at Montefiore/Bronx Municipal Hospital Center, and he is board certified in internal medicine and infectious diseases. Dr. Eisenberg served as associate director of medical services at the Albert Einstein College Hospital, where he was an assistant professor of medicine. Subsequently, he entered the private practice of infectious diseases in Montclair, NJ, from 1987 to 1996.

Christopher Ervin, MD, FACEP

Christopher Ervin, MD, FACEP, is a graduate of Furman University with a degree in chemistry and Duke University a degree in medicine. He completed his residency in emergency medicine at Cook County Hospital after a preliminary year of general surgery at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Dr. Ervin is a fellow of the American College of Emergency Physicians. He is also a Morehouse School of Medicine’s Executive Faculty Development Scholar. Dr. Ervin has served several administrative roles at in emergency departments throughout the country and as volunteer faculty for the Department of Emergency Medicine at Howard University Hospital. He has been the vice-chair and chair of the Emergency Medicine Section and the secretary of the House of Delegates of the National Medical Association (NMA) and has served on several committees within the organization. He has been on the American Medical Association/NMA Commission to End Healthcare Disparities (CEHD), with leadership positions on several committees. In addition he represented the CEHD on the Sullivan Alliance. He has been part of the writing group developing the next set of guidelines for treating childhood obesity. Currently, Dr. Ervin is working with the Georgia Diabetes Coalition, the All Healer’s Mental Health Alliance, and the National Black Alcohol and Addictions Council.
**Jennifer Faerberg, MHSA**

Jennifer Faerberg, MHSA, is the director of graduate medical education and health care quality liaison, Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC). Ms. Faerberg is responsible for operation of the Web-based application as well as analysis and reporting of graduate medical education workforce data. Ms. Faerberg is responsible for policy issues related to health care quality in academic medical centers. As part of her many duties, she serves as a primary staff person representing the AAMC on the Hospital Quality Alliance, Quality Alliance Steering Committee, and the National Quality Forum as well as other quality-related groups. Prior to joining the AAMC, Ms. Faerberg was the practice administrator at the Virginia Neuroscience Center. Ms. Faerberg has also held several positions at the George Washington University Medical Center, including administrative manager for the Department of Medicine. Ms. Faerberg received her BS from Ithaca College and an MHSA from the George Washington University in Washington, DC.

**Lisa C. Flowers, MD**

Lisa C. Flowers, MD, is an assistant professor in the Division of Gynecologic Oncology, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Emory University School of Medicine. She joined the faculty in 1999. Dr. Flowers is a graduate of Oberlin College in psychobiology and Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. She completed her residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Magee-Women’s Hospital, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA, and a fellowship in gynecologic oncology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. She is a junior fellow of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and an Associate Member of the American Association for Cancer Research. She has been a U.S. Army Reserve captain since November 1994. Dr. Flowers received the Magee-Women’s Hospital/University of Pittsburgh Resident Teaching Award for 1992–1993, 1993–1994, and 1994–1995, and she is a member of Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society. Dr. Flowers’ research interests are as follows: National Institutes of Health/National Cancer Institute. Clinical Investigator Award, 1-K0A734488-01. Chromosome 3p Recessive Oncogenes in Cervical Cancer, American Cancer Society, Texas Division Oncology Fellowship, Cervical Adenocarcinomas; American Cancer Society, Texas Division Oncology Fellowship, Genetic Alterations in Vulvar Carcinomas; and DNA Repair and Somatic Mutations in the Blood and Breast Tissue of Breast Cancer Patients.

**Evelyn Foust, CPM, MPH**

Evelyn Foust, CPM, MPH, is director of the HIV/STD Prevention and Care Branch, Division of Public Health, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services.

**Eugene Freund, MD, MSPH**

Eugene Freund, MD, MSPH, is a senior clinical advisor in the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Office of Clinical Standards and Quality. He is the lead for Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) efforts related to medication prescribing and also serves as the CMS representative to the National Kidney Disease Education Program Steering Committee. Previously, he led the QIO contractor evaluation process. Dr. Freund was a medical consultant/epidemiologist with the Health Care Financing Administration Region VI (Dallas, TX) Division of Clinical Standards and Quality, where he also served as coleader of the national Diabetes Clinical Area Team. Dr. Freund received his medical degree from the University of Cincinnati and completed a family practice residency and MSPH from the University of Missouri-Columbia. He was an Epidemic Intelligence Service officer and then medical epidemiologist with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Dr. Freund is board certified in family practice and preventive medicine (occupational medicine) and practices weekly at the Kimbrough Ambulatory Care
Center at Fort George Meade, MD. He is a member of the American Public Health Association and is a captain in the United States Public Health Service.

Sandra Gadson, MD

Sandra Gadson, MD, is immediate past president of the National Medical Association.

James R. Gavin III, MD, PhD

James R. Gavin III, MD, PhD, is clinical professor of medicine at Emory University School of Medicine and president and chief executive officer of MicroIslet, Inc. Dr. Gavin also serves as executive vice president for clinical affairs at Healing Our Village, Inc. From 2002 to 2004, Dr. Gavin was president of the Morehouse School of Medicine. He served as senior scientific officer at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) from 1991 to 2002 and director of HHMI–National Institutes of Health Research Scholars Program from 2000 to 2002. Before joining HHMI, Dr. Gavin was on the faculty at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center as a professor and as chief of the Diabetes Section; acting chief of the Section on Endocrinology, Metabolism and Hypertension; and William K. Warren Professor for Diabetes Studies. He serves on many advisory boards and belongs to many medical organizations, including the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Diabetes Association, for which he is a past president. Dr. Gavin holds a BS in chemistry from Livingstone College, a PhD in biochemistry from Emory University, and an MD from Duke University School of Medicine. Dr. Gavin also serves as a member of the board of directors of Baxter International, Inc., Amylin Pharmaceuticals, Inc., and MicroIslet, Inc.

Denesecia P. Green

Denesecia P. Green is a health insurance specialist in the Office of External Affairs, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Priscilla Grace Harrell, MD, MPH

Priscilla Grace Harrell, MD, MPH, is a member of the faculty of Harvard Medical School. She practices anesthesia and pain management in the Department of Anesthesia and Critical Care at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts. Dr. Harrell’s professional interests include investigating the mechanisms of somatosensory processing; practicing integrative medicine, including acupuncture; and exploring the economic and societal systems that tolerate disparate outcomes in health care. She has published widely and is often invited to speak at national conferences and seminars. Dr. Harrell received the BS degree (biology) from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the MD degree from Harvard Medical School. She completed a residency in anesthesiology and a fellowship in pain management at the Massachusetts General Hospital. In addition, Dr. Harrell holds the MPH degree, with a specialization in health care policy and management, from the Harvard School of Public Health.

Donald Henson, MD

As a member of the U.S. Public Health Service at the National Cancer Institute (NCI) for 30 years, Donald Henson, MD, served as staff pathologist in the Clinical Center, Office of International Affairs, Breast Cancer Program, and various positions in the Division of Cancer Prevention. In addition to NCI responsibilities, he also served the medical community. Dr. Henson served as chair of the American Joint Committee on Cancer as NCI representative and as chair of the Cancer Committee of the College of American Pathologists. He has been a consultant for the World Health Organization and for the Pan American Health Organization. He has participated in many national and international programs, including those sponsored by NCI, the American Cancer Society, and the International Union against Cancer. He has published or edited more than 15 books and manuals and more than 175 peer-reviewed manuscripts. He is nationally
known for his work on precancerous lesions. Currently, Dr. Henson is professor of pathology and clinical professor of epidemiology and biostatistics at the George Washington University School of Medicine in Washington, DC. He also serves as a consultant to the Department of Health in Washington, DC.

**Dora Hughes, MD, MPH**

Dora Hughes, MD, MPH, is health policy advisor to Senator Barack Obama. Dr. Hughes advises the Senator Obama on a broad range of health issues and helps to develop his national policy agenda. She is responsible for legislation focused on health-care access, health-care quality, disease prevention, the health of underserved populations, specific disease states, and the health professions. Dr. Hughes previously served as deputy director for health for Senator Edward M. Kennedy on the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions in the United States Senate. Prior to working on Capitol Hill, Dr. Hughes served as senior program officer at the Commonwealth Fund, a national health foundation in New York City. She is board certified in internal medicine.

**Louis J. Ignarro, PhD**

Louis J. Ignarro, PhD, is a Distinguished Professor of Pharmacology at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), School of Medicine and winner of the 1998 Nobel Prize in Medicine for his groundbreaking discovery of the importance of nitric oxide in cardiovascular health. For nearly 30 years Dr. Ignarro’s research has focused on the role of nitric oxide in the cardiovascular system. Among his most significant discoveries is that nitric oxide is produced in the blood vessels and controls the flow of blood by signaling the vessels to expand and contract. His experiments in 1990 led to the discovery that nitric oxide is the neurotransmitter responsible for penile erection, which made it possible to develop and market Viagra, the first oral medication for the effective treatment of erectile dysfunction. In addition to continuing to lead an active team of researchers in his lab at UCLA, Dr. Ignarro now focuses on communicating the benefits of enhanced nitric oxide production to the general public. He was born in Brooklyn, NY, in 1941. He received a BSc in chemistry and pharmacy from Columbia University in 1962, a PhD in pharmacology from the University of Minnesota in 1966, and postdoctoral training in the Laboratory of Chemical Pharmacology at the National Institutes of Health from 1966 to 1968.

**Robert L. Jesse, MD**

Robert Jesse received his BS in biochemistry from the University of New Hampshire followed by a PhD in biophysics at the Medical College of Virginia. After joining the basic sciences faculty in the Biophysics Department, he then went on to receive an MD degree followed by internal medicine residency and cardiology fellowship at the Medical College of Virginia campus at Virginia Commonwealth University. At present, he serves on the faculty of Pauley Heart Center as associate professor of medicine (cardiology), is director of acute cardiac care, chairman of the Cardiology Division at the Veteran Affairs Medical Center in Richmond, and national program director for cardiology for the Veterans Health Administration in Washington, DC. Dr. Jesse, along with the Acute Cardiac Team at Virginia Commonwealth University Health System, pioneered the nationally recognized Chest Pain Program, which has published widely on both the initial risk stratification and outcomes for patients with acute coronary syndromes, especially as related to biomarkers. Dr. Jesse has been the director of several national courses on the management of chest pain, including the Society for Chest Pain Centers and Providers Sixth Annual Meeting. He served on the National Academy of Clinical Biochemistry Task Force that authored the initial standards of laboratory practice on the use of cardiac markers in 1999, and is currently on the committee rewriting those guidelines.
Kevin E. Lofton

Kevin E. Lofton is chair of the American Hospital Association Board of Trustees. Mr. Lofton was appointed president and chief executive officer of Catholic Health Initiatives in 2003. He joined the Denver-based health system in 1998 as president of the Southeast Region and has held a variety of executive positions with the organization, including serving as executive vice president and chief operating officer. Prior to joining Catholic Health Initiatives, Mr. Lofton was the executive director and chief executive officer of the University of Alabama Hospital in Birmingham, a 908-bed university teaching hospital. Mr. Lofton has also served as the chief executive officer of Howard University Hospital in Washington, DC, and chief operating officer at the University Medical Center, urban campus of the University of Florida Health Science Center in Jacksonville. Mr. Lofton has served as member of the AHA Board of Trustees and its Executive Committee and a member of the Operations and Nominations Committee. He has chaired the Medicare Outlier Payment Advisory Panel, and has been an ex officio member of Regional Policy Board 3 and 8 and at-large member of Regional Policy Board 4. He has also served as board liaison to the Health Care Systems Constituency Section and as a member of the Circle of Life Committee, the Task Force on Delivery System Organization, and the Health Forum Board.

Marsha Martin

(BIOGRAPHY NOT AVAILABLE)

Claudia Martorell, MD

Claudia Martorell, MD, is a nationally known HIV clinical investigator. As the director of The Research Institute, she focuses research toward HIV and hepatitis C in minority populations. Dr. Martorell is an investigator of the Integrated Minority AIDS Network Clinical Investigators Group (IMANi). She is the associate director of research for the Community Research Initiative of New England. Dr. Martorell is a board-certified, infectious diseases specialist with a master of public health and a fellowship in minority health policy from Harvard University. She is the former tuberculosis control officer for the City of Boston and is the former Medical Director of the Communicable Disease Control of the Boston Public Health Commission, Boston, MA. Dr. Martorell has published articles on major journals and has been the recipient of multiple awards, including the 2004 American Medical Association Foundation Excellence in Medicine Award. She contributed to Be Safe: A Cultural Competency Model for Hispanic Americans for the National Minority AIDS Education and Training Center. Dr. Martorell does outreach and education on HIV/hepatitis to underserved communities. She serves in leadership positions in local as well as national organizations.

Randall W. Maxey, MD, PhD

Randall W. Maxey, MD, PhD, was installed as the 104th president of the National Medical Association (NMA) at the organization’s 2003 Annual Convention and Scientific Assembly. Dr. Maxey continues to emphasize the NMA’s mission to eliminate health disparities. This will be accomplished, in part, with the development of cultural competence programs, public health outreach, and further development of evidence-based best practices. Dr. Maxey is president of the Alliance of Minority Medical Associations and cochairs the NMA American Medical Association Commission to Eliminate Health Disparities and also the Commission on the Human Genome and Health Disparities. Dr. Maxey has special interests in chronic kidney disease, cardiovascular disease, and health disparities. He has created the Community Health Project concept of Health Education Risk Reduction Opportunity (H.E.R.R.O.), whose major objective is improving health outcomes by developing and emphasizing personal health responsibility and incentives. In his scientific and academic endeavors and private nephrology practice, Dr. Maxey has made
significant contributions to research and education on the prevention and treatment of renal failure, especially in cases complicated by severe cardiovascular disease. His work has been recognized with awards from peers, colleagues, and professional organizations, including the NMA and the Golden State Medical Association. Notable among Dr. Maxey’s achievements was creating new approaches to the prevention of renal failure in South Pacific Islanders with diabetes mellitus and hypertension. Dr. Maxey is a member of the newly formed National Minority Quality Forum Scientific Advisory Board Executive Committee.

Mark B. McClellan, MD, PhD

Mark B. McClellan, MD, PhD, is an internationally noted physician health economist and an associate professor of economics and medicine at Stanford University. His current efforts are to drive improvements in high-quality, innovative, affordable health care. As CMS administrator (2004–2006) and FDA commissioner (2002–2004) Dr. McClellan implemented major health policy reforms, including the Part D Medicare prescription drug benefit, FDA’s Critical Path Initiative, and numerous public-private initiatives. He served as a member of the President’s Council of Economic Advisers, as White House senior health care director (2001–2002); as U.S. Treasury Department assistant secretary for economic policy (1998–1999), and as a National Bureau of Economic Research research associate again after leaving government. At Stanford he was a Hoover Institution national fellow and health outcomes research director in the Centers for Health Policy and Primary Care and Outcomes Research. He has been associate editor, Journal of Health Economics, and is a widely published and sought-after speaker and lecturer. His PhD in economics is from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Health Sciences and Technology Division, his MD is from Harvard’s College of Medicine, and his MPA is from Harvard University. He is a member of the newly formed National Minority Quality Forum Scientific Advisory Board Executive Committee.

Miriam Michael, MD

Miriam Michael, MD, is at Howard University Hospital.

Albert W. Morris, Jr., MD

Albert W. Morris, Jr., MD is a native of Detroit, MI, and a diagnostic radiologist in Memphis, TN. He was installed as president of the National Medical Association at the 2006 Annual Convention and Scientific Assembly in Dallas, TX. A graduate of Detroit’s Cass Technical High School, he entered Howard University to pursue a career in medicine. He spent two summers at Harvard University in its health careers summer program. After completing his sophomore year, he was in the first class of students enrolled into the Howard University College of Medicine early admission program. After graduation in 1976, an internship and a diagnostic radiology residency followed at the University of Tennessee Center for the Health Sciences in Memphis. While an instructor in the Department of Radiology, he also completed a fellowship in ultrasound and computed tomography. In 1982, Dr. Morris established one of the first freestanding outpatient diagnostic radiology centers in Tennessee. He was also director of radiology services at Methodist Haywood Park and Baptist Hospital Forrest City hospitals, as well as the Memphis Health Centers. Dr. Morris’ legacy of service within the National Medical Association includes his tenure as chairman of the Board of Trustees, secretary of the Board of Trustees, chair of the Council on Scientific Exhibits, chair of Region III, and chair of the Environmental Health and Bioterrorism Task Force.

Rodrigo A. Muñoz, MD

Rodrigo A. Muñoz, MD, is a nationally noted psychiatrist, scholar, and teacher. He is active in programs for indigent and homeless people suffering from chronic depression and mental illness. Dr. Muñoz presided over the transformation of the American Psychiatric Association (APA) at
the turn of the decade, including the creation of the American Psychiatric Institute on Research and Education, the consolidation of the American Publishing Group, and implementation of changes to link the organization's structure more closely to membership. He coauthored “Diagnostic Criteria for Using Psychiatric Research,” the most quoted psychiatric paper in the last decades of the 20th century, and he is widely published in the leading scientific journals. In Wisconsin he directed an alcohol and substance abuse program and also a geriatric program in addition to his active practice. Dr. Muñoz has had a major impact on psychiatric and medical organizations, serving on six committees of the San Diego and California Medical Associations. Under Dr. Muñoz’s leadership, evidence-based approaches to clinical care took a major leap forward with the publishing of the APA’s first quality indicators to compliment APA’s Practice Guidelines. Dr. Muñoz is a member of the newly formed National Minority Quality Forum Scientific Advisory Board Executive Committee.

**Ayanna Najuma**

Ayanna Najuma is a Renaissance woman, a true visionary, with over 25 years of international communication experience in marketing, advertising, strategic planning, public relations, and organizational development. She is currently a principal with Lincoln-McLeod LLC. Through Ms. Najuma’s extensive multi-sector background, she has developed an impressive range of creative skills, including hosting her own radio talk show and writing for numerous newspapers and publications. Later this spring she will provide commentary for Retirement Living Television. Ms. Najuma is committed to eliminating health-care disparities in all areas, specifically kidney disease and issues related to women’s health. In 2005, she donated a kidney to a friend and is now speaking nationally to educate and inform people of color on the importance of organ donation. She is also a noted speaker, motivating and empowering audiences across America on issues related to aging. She received a bachelor of arts degree from George Washington University, a masters degree from Howard University in urban planning, and attended Howard University School of Law. Ms. Najuma has also been featured in *Essence, Heart and Soul,* and *Emerge* magazines. She has accepted the responsibility of manifesting ideas that allow people from every walk of life to determine their own destiny by using their talents, skills, and resources to make a difference in the world—to enhance the quality of life.

**Leslie V. Norwalk, Esq.**

Leslie V. Norwalk, Esq., is acting administrator for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). During her five years at CMS, she served as deputy administrator, chief operating officer, and acting director of the Center for Beneficiary Choices. An expert on Medicare issues, she played a central role in implementing the prescription drug benefit and other reforms to Medicare and Medicaid. She also led the agency's efforts in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. With the second-largest federal budget outlay, CMS is directly responsible for one-third of the nation’s health-care spending. CMS insures more than 84 million beneficiaries, including the elderly, the disabled, and some of the nation’s lowest-income individuals. Each year CMS processes over one billion claims and contracts with approximately one million providers. Prior to joining CMS, she practiced law in Washington, DC, where she worked on a variety of health policy matters. She also served the first Bush administration in Office of Presidential Personnel. Ms. Norwalk, a native of Dayton, OH, earned a juris doctor degree from the George Mason University School of Law and was a Dean’s Scholar and an editor of the George Mason Law Review. She earned a bachelor’s degree, cum laude, in economics and international relations from Wellesley College.

**Edward James Olmos**

Edward James Olmos is a multitalented actor, producer, director, and community activist who was born and raised in East Los Angeles. Olmos’ acting ability has brought him recognition on
stage, television, and the big screen. He was honored with a Golden Globe and an Emmy Award for his role as Lt. Castillo in the popular TV series *Miami Vice*, and has been nominated for a Tony as well as several Academy Awards. He is committed to socially conscious films and cofounded YOY Productions in 1982 to promote these types of movies. Olmos’ humanitarian activities include acting as a United States Goodwill Ambassador for UNICEF, being a national spokesman for the Diabetes Research Institute Foundation, and serving on the boards of the Miami and Los Angeles Children's Hospitals. He is the executive director of the Lives in Hazard Education Project, a national gang prevention program funded by the U.S. Department of Justice, and he contributes to the Foundation for Advancements in Science and Education. For his many good works, Olmos has received honorary doctorates from five educational institutions, including the University of Colorado, California State University at Fresno, and the American Film Institute in Hollywood.

**Representative Frank Pallone, Jr.**

On January 4, Frank Pallone, Jr., was officially sworn in for his tenth full term in the U.S. House of Representatives. Pallone represents New Jersey’s Sixth Congressional District. In the 110th Congress, he continues to serve as a senior member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, which has jurisdiction over issues pertaining to energy, environment, health care, commerce, and telecommunications. In January 2007, Pallone was chosen by his colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee to chair the Subcommittee on Health, which has sole jurisdiction over Medicaid, the Food and Drug Administration, the National Institutes of Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and shares jurisdiction of Medicare with the Ways and Means Committee. It oversees public health, biomedical programs, food and drug safety, mental health and research, hospital construction, and all health-care homeland-security-related concerns. Pallone continues to serve on the committee's Telecommunications & Internet and the Environment & Hazardous Materials Subcommittees. He is also a member of the House Natural Resources Committee, which has jurisdiction over fisheries, oceans, and other coastal issues, and serves on the committee's Fisheries and Oceans Subcommittee. Throughout his tenure in Congress, Pallone’s legislative accomplishments have been geared to the protection and restoration of environmental resources and the expansion of health care to the uninsured.

**Eric D. Peterson, MD, MPH, FACC, FAHA**

Eric D. Peterson, MD, MPH, FACC, FAHA, is an associate professor of medicine and vice chair for quality at Duke University Medical Center. He is also the codirector of cardiovascular research and director of outcomes and registries at the Duke Clinical Research Institute. His formal research training includes an MPH from Harvard University. Dr. Peterson received a Paul Beeson Faculty Scholar Research Award in geriatric cardiology. He has a strong record of National Institutes of Health funding and currently oversees two active R01 awards. He has authored over 200 peer-reviewed publications, multiple book chapters, and invited editorials. He is the principal investigator for the Data Coordinating Centers for the Society of Thoracic Surgeons National Cardiac Surgery Database, the American College of Cardiology (ACC) National Cardiac Database, the American Heart Association (AHA) Get With the Guidelines Database (GWTG), and the CRUSADE National Quality Improvement Initiative. He sits on multiple national committees for the AHA, the ACC, the Institute of Medicine, and the Department of Veterans Affairs, and he cochaired the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Working Group on Outcomes Research.

**Winston Price, MD, FAAP**

Winston Price, MD, FAAP, served as the 105th president of the National Medical Association (NMA) from August 2004 to July 2005. Dr. Price graduated from Cornell University Medical College and completed his residency training at New York Hospital–Memorial Sloan-Kettering in
Gary A. Puckrein, PhD

Gary Puckrein is the visionary leader responsible for creating the National Minority Quality Forum. Dr. Puckrein also serves as Executive Director of the Alliance of Minority Medical Associations, a collaborative effort of the Asian and Pacific Physicians' Association, the Association of American Indian Physicians, and the National Medical Association. In 1989 he founded the predecessor program, the National Minority Health Month Foundation (NMHMF) to help communities and policy makers eliminate the disproportionate burden of premature death and preventable illness in special populations through the use of evidence based, data driven initiatives. Dr. Puckrein is responsible for Congressional proclamations designating April “National Minority Health Month, in which numerous states, cities and communities across the country participate each year. Dr. Puckrein is responsible for building NMQF capacity to house minority vital statistics, demographics, environmental information, provider claims, prescription drugs use, clinical laboratory values, health care access points and other data elements through one centralized data warehouse. Dr. Puckrein is responsible for creating Minority Health Disparity Atlas’s that allow the organization to measure and forecast health status in small geographic areas; evaluate the impact of specific interventions; monitor changes in health outcomes; and to serve as a valuable resource for the broad range of ethnic and racial minorities. Dr. Puckrein two published successful magazines, Smithsonian’s American Visions, and later Minority Health Today. Dr. Puckrein was awarded his doctorate from Brown University, graduating Phi Beta Kappa.

Jorge A. Quel, MD, FACAAI

Jorge A. Quel, MD, FACAAI, is board certified in allergy and immunology and is a practicing pediatric allergist and clinical immunologist currently serving as president of the Olympic Games for Children with Asthma. He consults frequently for the University of California, Los Angeles’ Santa Monica Hospital, St. John’s Hospital, and the Centinela Freeman Medical Center on the Marina Campus. Dr. Quel is a member of the Executive Committee of the Society for Latino Asthma, Allergy and Immunology, vice president of UNASMA, a foundation whose objective is to improve the quality of life of asthmatic patients and their families, as well as to prevent complications from this disease. Dr. Quel also serves on the Liaison Committee for the American Academy of Asthma, Allergy and Immunology and he chairs the Latin American Committee of the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology. He is a member of the Network of Ethnic Physician Organizations. Dr. Quel’s board certification is from the American Board of Allergy and Immunology, a joint board of the American Board of Internal Medicine and the American Board of Pediatrics. Dr. Quel is a member of the newly formed National Minority Quality Forum Scientific Advisory Board Executive Committee.
James Reed, MD, MACP, FACE  
James Reed, MD, MACP, FACE is professor of medicine, associate chair of medicine for research, chief of endocrinology, and chief of medicine service, Grady for Morehouse School of Medicine.

Jorge Rios, MD  
(BIOGRAPHY NOT AVAILABLE)

Griffin P. Rodgers, MD, MBA, MACP  
Griffin P. Rodgers, MD, MBA, MACP, a New Orleans native, is an internationally know physician-scientist and leading molecular hematologist. He is recognized for his contributions to the development of effective therapy for sickle cell anemia and other genetic diseases of hemoglobin. Prior to becoming NIDDK Director, April 1, 2007, Dr. Rodgers served Acting Director and Deputy Director. He is also chief of NIDDK's Clinical and Molecular Hematology Branch. Dr. Rodgers oversees an annual budget of $1.8 billion and a staff of 650 scientists, physician-scientists, and administrators. He has been honored with numerous research awards including the 1998 Richard and Hinda Rosenthal Foundation Award, the 2000 Arthur S. Fleming Award, the Legacy of Leadership Award in 2002 and an ACP Mastership in 2005. Dr. Rodgers received his undergraduate, graduate and medical degrees from Brown University in Providence, R.I. In addition to his medical and research training, he earned a master's degree in business administration from Johns Hopkins University in 2005. He is board certified in Internal Medicine, in Emergency Medicine and in Hematology. Dr. Rodgers honors include: being an invited professor at medical schools and hospitals in France, Italy, China, Japan, and Korea; many named lectureships at American medical centers; and he has published over 150 original research articles, reviews, and book chapters and has edited four books and monographs.

Rochelle Rollins, PhD, MPH  
Rochelle Rollins, PhD, MPH, is acting director of the Division of Policy and Data in the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Office of Minority Health (OMH), where she oversees efforts to coordinate evaluations, improve the quality and availability of health data on racial and ethnic minorities, improve emergency preparedness responses, and prepare health policy and legislative reports. Prior to joining OMH, Dr. Rollins worked on projects to improve access to affordable and high-quality cancer care at the National Cancer Institute. Dr. Rollins has served as a lead on several cancer initiatives at the DHHS/Health Resources and Services Administration and wrote the first Cancer Action Plan that included a Cancer Collaborative designed to galvanize community health centers to excel in cancer screening, diagnosis, and referral for treatment. Earlier in her career, she was the research director of the Multicultural AIDS Coalition in Boston, Massachusetts, where she advocated for in the inclusion of more people of color in AIDS clinical trials. Dr. Rollins received her undergraduate degree from Wellesley College, her master of public health from Boston University, and her doctorate from Brandeis University’s Heller School for Social Policy and Management.

Beverly Russell  
Beverly Russell has worked to improve the health of Indian people for many years. Her experience includes the coordination of two urban Indian health programs within the American Indian Community House (AICH), a venture she began at the age of 18. During her time at AICH she served as the HIV/AIDS Project outreach coordinator and Women’s Wellness/Special Projects program coordinator. Ms. Russell is a member of the San Carlos Apache Tribe. She was born and raised on the San Carlos Apache Reservation in Arizona, later attending Seton Hall University in South Orange, New Jersey. She majored in political science and anthropology.
Currently, Ms. Russell serves as the chief of staff and senior advisor to the vice chairman of the San Carlos Apache Nation. She also serves as a board member for the National Indian Women’s Health Resource Center, in addition to serving as a national officer for Alpha Pi Omega Sorority Inc., the first Native American sorority in the country. Additionally, she is a member of the Kellogg Foundation’s Inaugural class of Emerging Leaders in Public Health Fellowship Program. Most recently, Ms. Russell was identified by the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of the American Indian as one of seven Native American standouts who represent the promising future of Indian people.

Sarah Hudson Scholle, DrPH, MPH

Sarah Hudson Scholle, DrPH, MPH, oversees the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) research agenda, leading two NCQA studies focused on physician-level measurement development, including patient-centered care performance metrics and testing methods for identifying high-quality depression care by primary care providers; as a coinvestigator on a study examining the feasibility of physician-level benchmarking; and as project director for a series of studies related to the measurement of physician office systems. She leads three NCQA health disparities studies that address the feasibility of reporting Health Plan Employer Data and Information Set (HEDIS) cardiovascular measures by gender, examining Medicare quality trends by race/ethnicity, and addressing culturally and linguistically appropriate services in health plan accreditation and quality measurement. Dr. Scholle represents NCQA Consumer Assessment of Health Plans Survey–related research. Dr. Scholle was previously an associate professor of psychiatry at the University of Pittsburgh. She has 40 journal publications, is a reviewer for several journals, and has served on Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality grant review panels. Dr. Scholle received her BS in history and her MPH from Yale University and her DrPH from Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health.

Senator Jeff Sessions

Jeff Sessions, a native of the Wilcox County community of Hybart, Alabama, was elected to the United States Senate in 1996. Currently in his second term, Senator Sessions serves on four committees: Armed Services, Judiciary, Budget, and Energy and Natural Resources. Prior to his election to the Senate, Senator Sessions had a distinguished public service career in Alabama, as state attorney general as well as U.S. attorney in Mobile. A lawyer by training, Senator Sessions also practiced law in Russellville and Mobile. While serving in the Senate, Senator Sessions has received numerous awards, including the Reserve Officers Association Minuteman of the Year Award, the Watchdogs of the Treasury Golden Bulldog Award, the National Federation of Independent Business Guardian of Small Business Award, and the Alabama Farmers Federation Service to Agriculture Award. Senator Sessions is a 1969 graduate of Huntingdon College, and he received a law degree from the University of Alabama in 1973. Senator Sessions is married to Mary Blackshear Sessions, originally of Gadsden, and they have three children.

Dexter Shurney, MD

Dexter Shurney, MD, is senior vice president and chief medical officer, Healthways.

Congresswoman Hilda L. Solis

First elected in 2000, Congresswoman Hilda L. Solis is serving her fourth term in the U.S. House of Representatives. She represents California’s 32nd Congressional District, which includes portions of East Los Angeles and the San Gabriel Valley. Prior to her election to Congress, Solis served eight years in the California state legislature. In August 2000, Solis became the first woman to receive the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award, for her pioneering work on environmental justice issues in California. Congresswoman Solis’ priorities in Congress include expanding access to affordable health insurance, protecting our environment, and improving the
lives of working families. In 2003, she became the first Latina appointed to the powerful Committee on Energy and Commerce, where she is the vice chair of the Environment and Hazardous Materials Subcommittee and a member of the Health and Telecommunications Subcommittees. She is also a member of the House Committee on Natural Resources. In March 2007, Solis was named a member a the newly created House Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming. Solis is vice chair of the Democratic Steering and Policy Committee and serves as a senior whip, as well as a regional whip for Southern California. She is also serving her third term as the chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus’ Task Force on Health and the Environment.

**Kári Stefánsson, MD, DrMed**

Kári Stefánsson, MD, DrMed has served as president, chief executive officer and a director since he cofounded deCODE genetics in August 1996. Dr. Stefánsson was appointed chairman of the Board of Directors of deCODE genetics in December 1999. From 1993 until April 1997, Dr. Stefánsson was a professor of neurology, neuropathology and neuroscience at Harvard University. In addition, from 1993 through December 1996 he was director of neuropathology at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts. From 1983 to 1993, he held faculty positions in neurology, neuropathology and neurosciences at the University of Chicago. Dr. Stefánsson received his MD and DrMed from the University of Iceland and is board certified in neurology and neuropathology in the United States. He has published numerous articles on the genetics of common/complex diseases.

**Barry M. Straube, MD**

Barry M. Straube, MD, is currently the director of the Office of Clinical Standards and Quality and chief medical officer at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Dr. Straube oversees several major elements of CMS’s quality and clinical policy portfolio, including the development of national coverage policies and quality standards for Medicare and Medicaid providers and quality measurement and public reporting initiatives, and he manages the Quality Improvement Organization Program. As chief medical officer, Dr. Straube serves as a senior advisor to the administrator on clinical and scientific policy. He received an AB degree (magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa) from Princeton University and an MD degree from the University of Michigan Medical School. He completed an internal medicine residency at California Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco and subsequently served as a renal fellow at Tufts University-New England Medical Center in Boston. He is board certified in internal medicine and nephrology.

**Thomas Tsang, MD, MPH**

Thomas Tsang, MD, MPH, is chief medical officer, Charles B. Wang Community Health Center, New York City. He is a board-certified internist and also training core director for the Center for the Study of Asian American Health, which involves intensive training for non–health professionals as community health workers. He previously worked at Downtown Medical Associates of the New York University (NYU) Downtown Hospital and he maintains his clinical instructor appointment at NYU School of Medicine. Dr. Tsang was co–principal investigator on a study that confirmed that Asian-Americans face a major health problem that is not captured by national statistics. He is a member of the American Medical Association. Dr. Tsang received his bachelor of science degree from the City College of New York, his medical degree from the State University of New York, Stony Brook, School of Medicine and his master’s degree in public health from Columbia University’s School of Public Health. Dr. Tsang is a member of the newly formed National Minority Quality Forum Scientific Advisory Board Executive Committee.
Andrew Webber
Andrew Webber, became president and chief executive officer of the National Business Coalition on Health (NBCH) in June of 2003. NBCH is the national, not-for-profit, membership organization for local and regional business coalitions on health, dedicated to health system reform through value-based purchasing. Mr. Webber directs association activities, including public policy advocacy, education, communications, program development, and technical assistance. Mr. Webber serves on the boards of the Leapfrog Group and the National Quality Forum (NQF) and is a member of the Purchaser Advisory Councils for National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) and the eHealth Initiative. He also serves as a member of the NQF Implementation Committee. Prior to assuming his NBCH role, Mr. Webber was vice president for external relations and public policy for NCQA, senior associate for the Consumer Coalition for Quality Health Care, and executive vice president for the American Medical Peer Review Association (currently renamed the American Health Quality Association). Mr. Webber started his health care career in 1978 as an employee of the Washington Business Group on Health, rising to the position of vice president for public policy. Mr. Webber is a frequent speaker and lecturer on health care policy issues. He is a graduate of Harvard University.

Britt Weinstock (invited)
Britt Weinstock is senior health policy advisor to the Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust in the Office of Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen.

Ludmilla F. Wikkeling-Scott, DrPH (c), MPH
Ludmilla F. Wikkeling-Scott, DrPH (c), MPH, currently works on Capitol Hill, as a Health Legislative Assistant for Congressman Conyers, Jr, chair of the U.S. House Judiciary Committee, on issues related to the health professions manpower shortage, Medicare Part D, universal health care, and HIV/AIDS disparities. From Suriname origin, she was raised in the Netherlands and Spain and has lived in the United States since 1982. She received her BS in physiology, an MPH from Morgan State University, and is currently completing her DrPH. an interest in Biomedical Research and Public Health led her to the Washington, DC, area where she has made her mark on various government health institutions. Dr. Wikkeling-Scott has worked as a biologist in HIV/AIDS research at the National Cancer Institute. As a public health consultant, she has provided services for programs funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Agency, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Office of Minority Health, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), and the National Minority AIDS Council, and she has served as a peer grant reviewer for CDC and HRSA.

Richard Allen Williams, MD
Richard Allen Williams was born and raised in Wilmington, Delaware, the youngest of eight children. He received the MD degree from the State University of New York Downstate Medical Center, performed his internship at the University of California San Francisco Medical Center, internal medicine residency at the Los Angeles County-University of Southern California Medical Center, and cardiology fellowship at Harvard Medical School and Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston. Dr. Williams has numerous publications and awards to his credit and is the author of The Textbook of Black-related Diseases, published by McGraw-Hill in 1975. This is a 900-page book that details medical conditions peculiar to African Americans; no other book of its kind has been written before or since, and it is widely considered the classic seminal work on the medical status of Blacks. Dr. Williams founded the Association of Black
Cardiologists (ABC) in 1974 and served as its president for 10 years. He also became the first chairman of the Board of Directors and started the *ABC Newsletter*. The ABC established the endowed Dr. Richard Allen Williams Scholarship for Black Medical Students in his honor in 1980. Dr. Williams then founded the Minority Health Institute in 1987; he is president and chief executive officer of the latter organization. Dr. Williams is a member of the newly formed National Minority Quality Forum Scientific Advisory Board Executive Committee.

**Kimberlydawn Wisdom, MD, MS**

In February 2003, Michigan Governor Jennifer M. Granholm took an important first step toward revitalizing the state’s public-health by appointing Kimberlydawn Wisdom, MD, as Michigan’s—and the nation’s—first state-level surgeon general to address Michigan’s less-than-desirable health status. Dr. Wisdom has been leading Michigan’s public health promotion and disease prevention efforts, focusing on physical inactivity, unhealthy eating habits, childhood lead poisoning, tobacco use, chronic disease, infant mortality, unintended pregnancy, coordinated school health, HIV/AIDS, health disparities, suicide, and economic and social implications of not engaging in prevention activities. Prior to her appointment as surgeon general, she served as the founder and director for the Institute on Multicultural Health at Henry Ford Health System. Dr. Wisdom has been a board-certified Emergency Medicine Physician at Henry Ford Health System for more than 20 years and an assistant professor of medical education at the University of Michigan Medical Center. She was also the founder and director of the community-based African American Initiative for Male Health Improvement. In 2002, she was appointed to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Diabetes Translation Advisory Committee. Dr. Wisdom also received a Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (R.E.A.C.H.) grant to implement and evaluate a community action plan designed to decrease health disparities of African Americans and Latinos with diabetes in the Detroit area.

**Janet Woodcock, MD**

Janet Woodcock, MD, is deputy commissioner and the chief medical officer of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). She oversees scientific and medical regulatory operations for FDA. Dr. Woodcock most recently served as the deputy commissioner for operations and chief operating officer of FDA (2005–2007). Dr. Woodcock served as director of the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research at FDA from 1994 to 2005. She previously served in other positions at FDA, including director, Office of Therapeutics Research and Review, and acting deputy director, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research. Dr. Woodcock received her MD from Northwestern Medical School and completed further training and held teaching appointments at the Pennsylvania State University and the University of California in San Francisco. She joined FDA in 1986.

**David Ziemer, MD**

David Ziemer, MD, is at Grady Endocrinology Clinic.