



October 6, 2021

Representative Larry Bucshon, MD  
1005 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Kim Schrier, MD  
1123 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Dr. Bucshon and Dr. Schrier,

The undersigned members of the Physician Clinical Registry Coalition (the Coalition) would like to thank you for your leadership in sponsoring H.R. 5394, the Meaningful Access to Federal Health Plan Claims Data Act of 2021. The Coalition is a group of medical society-sponsored clinical data registries that collect and analyze clinical outcomes data to identify best practices and improve patient care. We are committed to advocating for policies that encourage and enable the development of clinical data registries and enhance their ability to improve quality of care through the analysis and reporting of clinical outcomes. Most of the members of the Coalition meet the definition of clinician-led clinical data registry under the 21st Century Cures Act.

Clinician-led clinical data registries, like the ones operated by our member organizations, are major sources of real-world evidence that are uniquely positioned to drive the health system forward, but these data repositories face significant regulatory barriers to meet their full potential. When registry data is combined with Medicare, Medicaid, and State Children's Health Insurance Program claims data, registries can facilitate both quality improvement efforts and longitudinal research. Current programs place restrictions on the use of data: allowing registries to access data for very specific research purposes, or for quality improvement, but not both. In addition, the application processes and associated fees are too costly and cumbersome to provide registries with timely and meaningful access to claims data.

Clinician-led clinical data registries can play a pivotal role in creating a safer, more efficient, and patient-centered health care delivery system. The Meaningful Access to Federal Health Plan Claims Data Act will provide us with an essential tool to help us reach that goal.

Once again, thank you for your support and leadership on these important issues. We look forward to working with you to see this legislation passed into law. Please let us know how we can be of further support by contacting Rob Portman or Leela Baggett at Powers Pyles Sutter & Verville, PC ([Rob.Portman@PowersLaw.com](mailto:Rob.Portman@PowersLaw.com) or [Leela.Baggett@PowersLaw.com](mailto:Leela.Baggett@PowersLaw.com)).

October 6, 2021

Dr. Buchson and Dr. Schrier

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Sincerely,

American Academy of Dermatology Association  
American Academy of Neurology  
American Academy of Ophthalmology  
American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery  
American Academy of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation  
American Association of Neurological Surgeons/Congress of Neurological Surgeons  
American College of Gastroenterology  
American College of Radiology  
American College of Rheumatology  
American College of Surgeons  
American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy  
American Society of Anesthesiologists  
American Society of Plastic Surgeons  
American Urological Association  
ASH Research Collaborative  
Association for Clinical Oncology  
College of American Pathologists  
Society of Interventional Radiology  
Society of NeuroInterventional Surgery  
The Center for Professionalism & Value in Health Care  
The Society of Thoracic Surgeons