



**PIPC**

Partnership to Improve Patient Care

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## **Putting Patients First Key to Comparative Effectiveness Research**

**WASHINGTON** – The [Partnership to Improve Patient Care](#) (PIPC) today hosted “**Delivering on Patient-Centered CER**” a forum that focused on the next steps in achieving patient-centered comparative effectiveness research (CER) in Washington, DC. Sen. Max Baucus (D-MT), chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, gave the keynote speech, and was joined by a panel of health care leaders who provided insight on advancing patient-centered CER through implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

"PIPC has worked long and hard to ensure that patients and health care providers are the focus of comparative effectiveness research, and we are pleased that the health reform law includes language to achieve this," PIPC chairman Tony Coelho said. "Sen. Baucus played a crucial role during the healthcare debate, fighting to make sure CER was patient-centered. As a result, we now have an unprecedented opportunity to establish a long-term research program that is patient-centered, credible, and meets the highest standards of scientific integrity. Now it's up to all of us in the patient and provider communities to support the successful implementation of these important provisions so that the research meets the needs of all patients - especially those that are often overlooked such as people with disabilities, minority communities and the elderly."

Sen. Baucus and the panelists who represented patients, consumers, physicians, minority health and people with disabilities discussed what needs to happen next to implement CER, especially as the new Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute is created.

"Health care reform provides resources for independent researchers to study the questions that patients, doctors and other health care providers want answered so the best decision can always be made for each individual patient," Senator Baucus said. "I'm glad to see groups like the Partnership to Improve Patient Care speaking out on behalf of patients, and I intend to stand with them to make sure health care research is always transparent and patient-focused."

The panel of health care leaders included Marc M. Boutin, Executive Vice President and COO of the National Health Council; Joyce Dubow, Senior Health Care Reform Director, Office of Policy & Strategy for AARP; Andy Imparato, President and CEO of American Association of People with Disabilities; Dr. Jack Lewin, CEO of American College of Cardiology; Jennifer M. Luray, Senior Vice President for Susan G. Komen for the Cure Advocacy Alliance; Dr. Gary Puckrein, President and CEO of the National Minority Quality Forum, and Dr. Robert Zwolak, Professor of Vascular Surgery at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center.

### About PIPC

The Partnership to Improve Patient Care was formed in November 2008 to support proposals to expand the government's role in comparative effectiveness research that are centered on patient and provider needs; raise awareness about the value of well-designed CER; and promote the important role of continued medical innovation as part of the solution to cost and quality challenges in health care. Partnership members include a wide range of health care organizations representing patient, provider and industry advocacy groups.

To learn more about PIPC, visit <http://www.improvepatientcare.org>.

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