



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PIPC STATEMENT ON CER PROVISION OF STIMULUS BILL

February 13, 2009 – Washington, DC -- The Partnership to Improve Patient Care (PIPC) is pleased that the comparative effectiveness research (CER) provision of the economic stimulus bill takes steps to ensure the research is centered on the needs of patients and providers. In particular, PIPC supports the primary focus of the provision to create much needed information on clinical outcomes. We also support report language recognizing that "a 'one-size-fits-all' approach to patient treatment is not the most medically appropriate solution to treating various conditions and that includes language to ensure that subpopulations are considered when research is conducted or supported."

PIPC is grateful to all of the lawmakers who worked to secure these clarifications in the final bill. We look forward to continuing to work with Congress and the Administration to create long-term CER policy that generates additional information on clinical outcomes and ultimately improves patient care."

"Since it was founded, PIPC has supported comparative clinical effectiveness research that is focused on improving patient care, and believes that well-designed comparative effectiveness research can be a valuable tool in improving health care and encouraging high quality clinical decision-making. With appropriate structure, government-funded comparative clinical effectiveness research will benefit patients by supporting health care decisions that best meet individual needs, improve overall quality of care and support continued medical progress.

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>.