



**Consensus Statement on the Critical Importance of  
Comparative Effectiveness Research  
December 2, 2009**

The undersigned organizations – representing business, labor, consumers, researchers, health plans, physicians, nurses and other providers – urge the Senate to retain the Patient-Centered Outcomes/Comparative Effectiveness Research (CER) provisions in health care reform, without crippling restrictions or amendments.

**We believe that the nation needs a publicly supported comparative effectiveness research program.** Comparative effectiveness research yields evidence that doctors and patients can use to make better treatment decisions. It save lives, improves health outcomes, makes care safer, and encourages the wise use of health care dollars. These benefits make comparative effectiveness research a critical component of health reform. Comparative effectiveness research also enhances “personalized medicine” by helping to inform doctors and patients about which treatment options work best for subsets of patients and individuals with unique medical circumstances.

We strongly urge the Senate to do the right thing for patients, clinicians, and the entire health system by assuring that comparative effectiveness research is retained in any reform legislation.

- AARP
- Aetna
- AFL-CIO
- Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy
- American Academy of Family Physicians
- American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM)

American Board of Internal Medicine Foundation  
American College of Cardiology (ACC)  
American College of Physicians (ACP)  
American Nurses Association  
America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP)  
Association for Clinical Research Training  
Association for Patient-Oriented Research  
Better Health Care Together  
Blue Cross Blue Shield Association  
Campaign for Mental Health Reform  
Center for Healthcare Decisions  
Center for Medical Consumers  
Childbirth Connection  
Coalition for Health Services Research  
Committee for Economic Development  
Consumer Federation of America  
Consumer's Checkbook/Center for the Study of Services  
Consumers Union  
Clinical Research Forum  
Foundation for Informed Medical Decision Making  
HealthCare Partners  
Health Dialog  
Health Care for All  
Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield, Pennsylvania  
HR Policy Association  
Leapfrog Group  
Medical Rights Center  
National Business Coalition on Health (NBCH)  
National Business Group on Health (NBGH)  
National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA)  
National Consumers League  
National Partnership for Women and Families (NPWF)  
North Carolina Senior Citizens Association  
North Carolina Consumer Advisory Council  
Pacific Business Group on Health (PBGH)  
Prematics, Inc.  
Service Employees International Union (SEIU)  
Society for Clinical and Translational Science  
Society of General Internal Medicine  
Society for Medical Decision Making

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