



February 17, 2004

Mr. Tom Barker, Esq.  
Deputy General Counsel  
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Room 713-F  
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Mr. Barker:

On behalf of the American Medical Group Association (AMGA), I would like to extend to you an invitation to participate in AMGA's Policy Expert Roundtable that will be held during AMGA's Annual Conference, March 11 – 14, 2004, at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside, New Orleans, Louisiana. The Roundtable is scheduled to take place on Saturday, March 13, 2004, from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm.

AMGA is an association that represents medical groups, including some of the nation's largest, most prestigious integrated health care delivery systems with a total of approximately 60,000 physicians. The members of AMGA deliver health care to more than 50 million patients in 40 states, including 15 million capitated lives. In addition to medical groups, AMGA members operate hospitals, laboratories, pharmacies, rehabilitation facilities, SNFs, and healthplans. As such, AMGA members are involved in virtually every facet of the health care delivery system and employ many nationally recognized leaders in the healthcare field. Well over 500 physician and administrative medical group leaders will attend AMGA's Annual Conference and I believe they will greatly benefit from the opportunity to hear your unique perspective on health care from the Department's point of view.

Roundtable participants will discuss the recently passed Medicare Prescription Drug Improvement and Modernization Act, its implementation by Federal and state agencies, its potential effect on group practices, and other issues that may arise, such as health care delivery reform. There will be a question and answer period to allow medical group leaders to interact with the Roundtable participants.

I am attaching a copy of AMGA's reimbursement policy that would apply to you as well as a copy AMGA's Annual Conference brochure. If you have any questions regarding our invitation, please feel free to contact me or Chet Speed, at (703) 838-0033 ex. 364.

Mr. Tom Barker, Esq.  
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I sincerely hope you will be able to participate in our health policy roundtable and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald W. Fisher".

Donald W. Fisher, Ph.D  
President and CEO

cc: Chester A. Speed