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**Medical Groups Unite in Support of Science**

(WASHINGTON, April 17, 2017) — As the world's leading organizations representing clinicians, laboratory researchers, and physician-scientists committed to improving patient care, we support the March for Science and its nonpartisan call for the appreciation of scientific evidence, education, and investment. Science has no political agenda but gives us the tools to find the truths about our world and then implement informed policies to enrich our communities.

Fundamental appreciation for scientific evidence is vital, and it begins with access to science education that highlights critical thinking and evidence-based decision-making. Americans need access to education that inspires them to question the world around them and develop new technologies and solutions.

Science is vital to our health, as an understanding of human biology is essential to stimulating discoveries that lead to cures for devastating diseases. Every day, physicians make the best patient-care decisions they can by relying on science-based tools. Clinicians prevent disease by administering immunizations, and they manage disease by providing therapies that have been thoroughly and scientifically vetted for optimal outcomes. This science-based care saves lives, decreases human suffering, and reduces unnecessary costs.

Therefore, it is critical that we protect federal investment in our health. Over the past several decades, research supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has yielded significant advances across all fields of medicine. Today, diseases with previously grim prognoses are treatable. We have powerful therapies that engage the patient's own immune system to conquer cancers and non-malignant diseases. And, genome editing is showing early promise in curing and even preventing debilitating genetic conditions.

We rely on evidence from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) to address patient safety, quality of care, efficiency, and access in our health care system. Research supported by the agency has prevented the spread of infections in hospitals and improved access to health care for patients in rural areas. And, through its surveillance programs, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has played an important role in preventing and controlling inherited and communicable disease as well as dangerous outbreaks. Without the CDC, outbreaks would spread, food-borne illness would go undetected, and chronic diseases would have a higher human and monetary cost.

Scientific progress and support of vital federal research programs have led to major advances in our health. We hope patients, their families, and everyone committed to advancing health care will join us in celebrating the value of scientific evidence in our everyday lives.

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### **American Academy of Dermatology**

Headquartered in Schaumburg, Ill., the American Academy of Dermatology, founded in 1938, is the largest, most influential, and most representative of all dermatologic associations. With a membership of more than 19,000 physicians worldwide, the AAD is committed to: advancing the diagnosis and medical, surgical and cosmetic treatment of the skin, hair and nails; advocating high standards in clinical practice, education, and research in dermatology; and supporting and enhancing patient care for a lifetime of healthier skin, hair and nails. For more information, contact the AAD at 1-888-462-DERM (3376) or [aad.org](http://aad.org). Follow the AAD on Facebook (American Academy of Dermatology), Twitter (@AADskin), or YouTube (AcademyofDermatology).

MEDIA CONTACT: [mediarelations@aad.org](mailto:mediarelations@aad.org).

### **American Academy of Family Physicians**

Founded in 1947, the AAFP represents 124,900 physicians and medical students nationwide. It is the only medical society devoted solely to primary care. Family physicians conduct approximately one in five office visits -- that's 192 million visits annually or 48 percent more than the next most visited medical specialty. Today, family physicians provide more care for America's underserved and rural populations than any other medical specialty. Family medicine's cornerstone is an ongoing, personal patient-physician relationship focused on integrated care. To learn more about the specialty of family medicine, the AAFP's positions on issues and clinical care, and for downloadable multi-media highlighting family medicine, visit [www.aafp.org/media](http://www.aafp.org/media). For information about health care, health conditions and wellness, please visit the AAFP's award-winning consumer website, [www.familydoctor.org](http://www.familydoctor.org) ([www.familydoctor.org](http://www.familydoctor.org)).

MEDIA CONTACT: Stephanie Wilken, [swilken@aafp.org](mailto:swilken@aafp.org).

### **American Academy of Ophthalmology**

The American Academy of Ophthalmology is the world's largest association of eye physicians and surgeons. A global community of 32,000 medical doctors, we protect sight and empower lives by setting the standards for ophthalmic education and advocating for our patients and the public. We innovate to advance our profession and to ensure the delivery of the highest-quality eye care. Our EyeSmart® program provides the public with the most trusted information about eye health. For more information, visit [aao.org](http://aao.org).

MEDIA CONTACT: [media@aao.org](mailto:media@aao.org).

### **The American Academy of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery**

The American Academy of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery is the world's largest organization representing specialists who treat the ear, nose, throat, and related structures of the head and neck. The Academy represents approximately 12,000 otolaryngologist-head and neck surgeons who diagnose and treat disorders of those areas. The medical disorders treated by our physicians are among the most common that afflict all Americans, young and old. They include chronic ear infection, sinusitis, snoring and sleep apnea, hearing loss, allergies and hay fever, swallowing disorders, nosebleeds, hoarseness, dizziness, and head and neck cancer. The AAO-HNS Foundation works to advance the art, science, and ethical practice of otolaryngology-head and neck surgery through education, research, and lifelong learning.

MEDIA CONTACT: [newsroom@entnet.org](mailto:newsroom@entnet.org)

### **American Academy of Pediatrics**

The American Academy of Pediatrics is an organization of 66,000 primary care pediatricians, pediatric medical subspecialists and pediatric surgical specialists dedicated to the health, safety and well-being of

infants, children, adolescents and young adults. For more information, visit [www.aap.org](http://www.aap.org) and follow us on Twitter @AmerAcadPeds.

### **American Academy of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation**

The American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation is the national medical specialty organization representing more than 10,000 physicians who are specialists in physical medicine and rehabilitation (PM&R). AAPM&R serves its member physicians by advancing the specialty of physical medicine and rehabilitation, promoting excellence in physiatric practice, and advocating on public policy issues related to persons with disabling conditions. PM&R physicians, also known as physiatrists, treat a wide variety of medical conditions affecting the brain, spinal cord, nerves, bones, joints, ligaments, muscles, and tendons. Physiatrists utilize cutting-edge as well as time-tested treatments to maximize function and quality of life. For more information about AAPM&R, visit [www.aapmr.org](http://www.aapmr.org).

MEDIA CONTACT: [pressinquiries@aapmr.org](mailto:pressinquiries@aapmr.org).

### **American Association of Cancer Research**

Founded in 1907, the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) is the world's first and largest professional organization dedicated to advancing cancer research and its mission to prevent and cure cancer. AACR membership includes more than 37,000 laboratory, translational, and clinical researchers; population scientists; other health care professionals; and patient advocates residing in 108 countries. The AACR marshals the full spectrum of expertise of the cancer community to accelerate progress in the prevention, biology, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer by annually convening more than 30 conferences and educational workshops, the largest of which is the AACR Annual Meeting with nearly 21,900 attendees. In addition, the AACR publishes eight prestigious, peer-reviewed scientific journals and a magazine for cancer survivors, patients, and their caregivers. The AACR funds meritorious research directly as well as in cooperation with numerous cancer organizations. As the Scientific Partner of Stand Up To Cancer, the AACR provides expert peer review, grants administration, and scientific oversight of team science and individual investigator grants in cancer research that have the potential for near-term patient benefit. The AACR actively communicates with legislators and other policymakers about the value of cancer research and related biomedical science in saving lives from cancer. For more information about the AACR, visit [www.AACR.org](http://www.AACR.org).

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### **American Association for Social Psychiatry**

The mission of the American Association for Social Psychiatry is to study, teach, and promote consciousness of how social factors contribute to the maintenance of psychological well-being, and to promote the understanding that social factors are core to all behavioral health issues. These include issues of increasing violence in our society and the world; religious, racial, gender and cultural differences that are expressed as intolerance; our relation to our planet; and the benefits and problems that science and technology offer. [www.socialpsychiatry.org](http://www.socialpsychiatry.org).

### **American College of Chest Physicians**

CHEST is the global leader in advancing best patient outcomes through innovative chest medicine education, clinical research, and team-based care. Its mission is to champion the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of chest diseases through education, communication, and research. CHEST serves as an essential connection to clinical knowledge and resources for its 19,000 members from around the world who provide patient care in pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine. For more information about CHEST, visit [chestnet.org](http://chestnet.org).

### **American College of Physicians**

The American College of Physicians is the largest medical specialty organization in the United States. ACP members include 148,000 internal medicine physicians (internists), related subspecialists, and medical students. Internal medicine physicians are specialists who apply scientific knowledge and clinical expertise to the diagnosis, treatment, and compassionate care of adults across the spectrum from health to complex illness. Follow ACP on Twitter and Facebook.

MEDIA CONTACT: Steve Majewski, smajewski@acponline.org.

### **American College of Surgeons**

The American College of Surgeons is a scientific and educational organization of surgeons that was founded in 1913 to raise the standards of surgical practice and improve the quality of care for all surgical patients. The College is dedicated to the ethical and competent practice of surgery. Its achievements have significantly influenced the course of scientific surgery in America and have established it as an important advocate for all surgical patients. The College has more than 80,000 members and is the largest organization of surgeons in the world. For more information, visit [www.facs.org](http://www.facs.org).

### **American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists**

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (The College), a 501(c)(3) organization, is the nation's leading group of physicians providing health care for women. As a private, voluntary, nonprofit membership organization of more than 58,000 members, The College strongly advocates for quality health care for women, maintains the highest standards of clinical practice and continuing education of its members, promotes patient education, and increases awareness among its members and the public of the changing issues facing women's health care. The American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), a 501(c)(6) organization, is its companion organization. [www.acog.org](http://www.acog.org)

MEDIA CONTACT: Megan Christin, mchristin@acog.org.

### **American Psychiatric Association**

The American Psychiatric Association is a national medical specialty society whose more than 37,000 physician members specialize in the diagnosis, treatment, prevention and research of mental illnesses, including substance use disorders.

MEDIA CONTACT: [press@psych.org](mailto:press@psych.org).

### **American Psychoanalytic Association**

The American Psychoanalytic Association is a professional organization of psychoanalysts with approximately 3,000 members. The Association is comprised of psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, educators, researchers and students who have an interest in psychoanalysis and psychoanalytic therapy. Visit [apsa.org](http://apsa.org) for more information.

MEDIA CONTACT: Wylie Tene, [wtene@apsa.org](mailto:wtene@apsa.org).

### **American Society for Adolescent Psychiatry**

The American Society for Adolescent Psychiatry serves as a professional network for its members and a specialized community dedicated to education development and advocacy for adolescents and the adolescent psychiatric field.

### **American Society of Clinical Oncology**

Founded in 1964, the American Society of Clinical Oncology, Inc. (ASCO®) is committed to making a world of difference in cancer care. As the world's leading organization of its kind, ASCO represents more than 40,000 oncology professionals who care for people living with cancer. Through research, education, and promotion of the highest-quality patient care, ASCO works to conquer

cancer and create a world where cancer is prevented or cured, and every survivor is healthy. ASCO is supported by its affiliate organization, the Conquer Cancer Foundation. Learn more at [www.ASCO.org](http://www.ASCO.org), explore patient education resources at [www.Cancer.Net](http://www.Cancer.Net), and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube.

MEDIA CONTACT: Amanda Narod, [Amanda.Narod@asco.org](mailto:Amanda.Narod@asco.org)

### **American Society of Hematology**

The American Society of Hematology (ASH) ([www.hematology.org](http://www.hematology.org)) is the world's largest professional society of hematologists dedicated to furthering the understanding, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disorders affecting the blood. For more than 50 years, the Society has led the development of hematology as a discipline by promoting research, patient care, education, training, and advocacy in hematology. ASH publishes *Blood* ([www.bloodjournal.org](http://www.bloodjournal.org)), the most cited peer-reviewed publication in the field, which is available weekly in print and online. In 2016, ASH launched *Blood Advances* ([www.bloodadvances.org](http://www.bloodadvances.org)), an online, peer-reviewed open-access journal. MEDIA CONTACT: Stephen Fitzmaurice, [sfitzmaurice@hematology.org](mailto:sfitzmaurice@hematology.org).

### **American Society of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology**

The American Society of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology (ASPHO) membership includes over 2000 members dedicated to improving the health and well-being of children and adolescents and with blood disorders and cancers. The Society works to actively advance programs and initiatives in professional education, scientific and clinical research, training, and practice issues. For more information, visit [www.aspho.org](http://www.aspho.org).

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### **American Society of Plastic Surgeons**

The American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) is the world's largest organization of board-certified plastic surgeons. Representing more than 7,000 Member Surgeons, the Society is recognized as a leading authority and information source on aesthetic and reconstructive plastic surgery. ASPS comprises more than 94 percent of all board-certified plastic surgeons in the United States. Founded in 1931, the Society represents physicians certified by The American Board of Plastic Surgery or The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. ASPS advances quality care to plastic surgery patients by encouraging high standards of training, ethics, physician practice and research in plastic surgery.

### **American Urological Association**

Founded in 1902 and headquartered near Baltimore, Maryland, the American Urological Association is a leading advocate for the specialty of urology, and has more than 21,000 members throughout the world. The AUA is a premier urologic association, providing invaluable support to the urologic community as it pursues its mission of fostering the highest standards of urologic care through education, research and the formulation of health policy.

MEDIA CONTACT: [communications@AUAnet.org](mailto:communications@AUAnet.org).

### **Association of American Cancer Institutes**

The Association of American Cancer Institutes (AACI) comprises 96 premier academic and freestanding cancer research centers in the U.S. and Canada. AACI is dedicated to reducing the burden of cancer by enhancing the impact of the leading academic cancer centers.

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### **Endocrine Society**

Endocrinologists are at the core of solving the most pressing health problems of our time, from diabetes

and obesity to infertility, bone health, and hormone-related cancers. The Endocrine Society is the world's oldest and largest organization of scientists devoted to hormone research and physicians who care for people with hormone-related conditions. The Society has more than 18,000 members, including scientists, physicians, educators, nurses and students in 122 countries. To learn more about the Society and the field of endocrinology, visit our site at [www.endocrine.org](http://www.endocrine.org). Follow us on Twitter at @TheEndoSociety and @EndoMedia.

### **Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer**

The Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC) is the world's leading member-driven organization specifically dedicated to improving cancer patient outcomes by advancing the science and application of cancer immunotherapy. Established in 1984, SITC, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, serves scientists, clinicians, academicians, patients, patient advocates, government representatives and industry leaders from around the world. Through educational programs that foster scientific exchange and collaboration, SITC aims to one day make the word "cure" a reality for cancer patients everywhere. MEDIA CONTACT: Julie Frinzi, [jfrinzi@sitcancer.org](mailto:jfrinzi@sitcancer.org).

### **Society of Interventional Radiology**

The Society of Interventional Radiology is a nonprofit, professional medical society representing more than 7,000 practicing interventional radiology physicians, trainees, students, scientists and clinical associates, dedicated to improving patient care through the limitless potential of image-guided therapies. SIR's members work in a variety of settings and at different professional levels—from medical students and residents to university faculty and private practice physicians. MEDIA CONTACT: Elise Castelli, [ecastelli@sirweb.org](mailto:ecastelli@sirweb.org).

### **Society of Thoracic Surgeons**

Founded in 1964, The Society of Thoracic Surgeons is a not-for-profit organization representing more than 7,200 cardiothoracic surgeons, researchers, and allied health care professionals worldwide who are dedicated to ensuring the best possible outcomes for surgeries of the heart, lung, and esophagus, as well as other surgical procedures within the chest. The Society's mission is to enhance the ability of cardiothoracic surgeons to provide the highest quality patient care through education, research, and advocacy.

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