

Albrecht, Joan (NCCAM)

To: levander@307.bhnrc.usda.gov
Subject: Info Request for White House Commission on CAM

Dr. Levander, a hard copy of the attached document was mailed to you on April 10. If you have a problem opening



LevanderUSDAMayLtr.

the attachment, please call me at 301-435-6198. Thank you, Joan Albrecht

wpd

Albrecht, Joan (NCCAM)

To: wcd4@cdc.gov
Subject: Info Request for White House Commission on CAM

Dr. Dietz, a hard copy of the attached document was mailed to you on April 10. If you have a problem opening the attachment, please call me at 301-435-6198. Thank you, Joan Albrecht



DietzCDCMayLtr.wpd

Albrecht, Joan (NCCAM)

To: james.decker@science.doe.gov
Subject: CAM Meeting May 14-16



DeckerDEMAYLtr.wpd

Dr. Decker, a hard copy of the attached document was sent to you on April 10. If you have a program opening the attachment please call me at 301-435-6198. Thank you, Joan Albrecht

Albrecht, Joan (NCCAM)

From: Albrecht, Joan (NCCAM)
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2001 11:23 AM
To: ssherman@nsf.gov
Subject: May 14-16, 2001 Meeting



ColwellNSFMayLtrwpd.

wpd

Good morning, a hard copy of the attached document was sent to Dr. Colwell on April 10. If you have a program opening the attachment please call me at 301-435-6198. Thank you, Joan Albrecht



White House Commission on Complementary and Alternative Medicine Policy

6701 Rockledge Drive, Suite 1010, MS-7707, Bethesda, Maryland 20817 tel: 301-435-7592 fax: 301-480-1691
E-mail: whccamp@mail.nih.gov Website: www.whccamp.hhs.gov

*Maureen Miller
F-15
copy sent 4/6/01*

Chair

James Gordon, MD

Commissioners

George Bernier, Jr, MD
David Bresler, PhD, LAc, OME
Thomas Chappell
Effic Chow, PhD, RN, DiplAc
George DeVries, III
William Fair, MD
Joseph Fins, MD, FACP
Veronica Gutierrez, DC
Wayne Jonas, MD
Linnea Larson, LCSW, LMFT
Tieraona Low Dog, MD, AHG
Charlotte Kerr, RSM
Dean Ornish, MD
Conchita Paz, MD
Joseph E. Pizzorno, Jr, ND
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Executive Staff

Stephen Groft, PharmD
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Geraldine Pollen, MA

Consultant Staff

Kenneth Fisher, PhD
Maureen Miller, MPH, RN
James Swyers, MA

April 6, 2001

Nicheole Amundsen, RNMS
(112) Chief, Primary Care
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20420

Dear Ms. Amundsen:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the White House Commission on Complementary and Alternative Medicine Policy to request certain information in preparation for an upcoming meeting.

The President established this Commission in March of 2000 through Executive Order 13147. In carrying out its mandate, the Commission is addressing (1) coordinated research on complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) practices and products; (2) appropriate education and training of CAM and conventional health care practitioners; (3) dissemination of reliable information on CAM to health care providers and the general public; and (4) delivery and public access to CAM services. Additional information on the Commission is available at its Web site at www.whccamp.hhs.gov.

The Commission will meet May 14th through the 16th to discuss coverage and reimbursement for CAM, as well as further discussion of CAM research – an area addressed by Dr. John Demakis (for Dr. James Burris) at the Commission's October 2000 meeting. At this time, we are seeking information related to the role of the Veterans Administration (VA) in coverage and reimbursement for CAM therapies. To guide you in providing information of interest to the Commission, we have developed the questions outlined below. If in preparing your response you find information not specifically requested but related to the scope of the Commission, please provide us with the additional information.

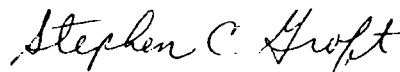
To assist you in fulfilling this request, we have enclosed a listing of health care modalities that are generally considered to be CAM to serve as guidance. This list is not intended to be all-inclusive and does not reflect the consensus or opinion of the Commission regarding a definition CAM. If there are other health care practices that you consider to be unconventional and wish to include with your response, please do so.

Questions Related to Coverage and Reimbursement

- What are the legislative, regulatory, and administrative parameters related to coverage of health benefits for veterans? How does the VA determine which benefits to add to its health care programs?
- Does the VA include any CAM services and products at its health care facilities, or through contracted providers? Describe.
- Does the VA have plans to incorporate new or additional CAM benefits? Explain, including budgetary options or concerns.
- What does the VA consider as the most promising areas of CAM practice to incorporate into its health care programs? Explain.
- For CAM services provided by the VA, if any, how are the costs of such services addressed, i.e., payment policies, budgeting, etc.
- For any CAM service provided outside of a VA facility, does the VA (or a contractor) determine whether to pay for the service and, if so, how is this done? Explain any relevant coverage processes.
- For CAM services provided outside of a VA facility, how is the payment amount determined? Describe any pertinent payment policies and processes used by the VA.
- What ideas and suggestions does the VA have for health services research related to access, coverage, and payment for CAM services and products?
- For CAM services covered, has the VA established standards (e.g., education, training, licensure) for the practitioners providing such services? Are any other quality monitors utilized?
- What ideas, issues, and concerns regarding coverage and payment for CAM can the VA provide the Commission as it develops its policy recommendations and report to the President and Congress?

We would appreciate your response **by May 7** either by email or fax so that the Commissioners will have time to review it before the May meeting. You may email your response to Maureen Miller at millemau@mail.nih.gov or send a fax to 301-480-1691. Specific questions may be addressed to her at 301-435-7592, or to me at 301-435-6199. Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,



Stephen C. Groft, Pharm. D.
Executive Director

Enclosure

Common CAM Therapies

Acupuncture
Acupressure
Alexander Technique
Applied Kinesiology
Anthroposophic Medicine
Aromatherapy
Autogenic Training
Ayurvedic Medicine
Energy Medicine
Chiropractic
(Sacral) Cranial Osteopathy
Environmental Medicine
Herbal Medicine
Homeopathy
Hypnosis
Guided Imagery
Massage Therapy
Meditation
Naturopathy
Nutritional Therapy (Nutrition)
Reflexology
Relaxation and Visualization
Shiatsu
Spiritual Healing
Therapeutic Touch
Traditional Chinese and Oriental Medicine
Yoga

Adapted from Zollman C, Vickers A. What is Complementary Medicine?
British Medical Journal 1999, 319; 693-696



White House Commission on Complementary and Alternative Medicine Policy

6701 Rockledge Drive, Suite 1010, MS-7707, Bethesda, Maryland 20817 tel: 301-435-7592 fax: 301-480-1691
E-mail: whccamp@mail.nih.gov Website: www.whccamp.hhs.gov

Handwritten: Sorry F+I copy sent 4/6/01

Chair

James Gordon, MD

Commissioners

George Bernier, Jr, MD
David Bresler, PhD, LAc, OME
Thomas Chappell
Effie Chow, PhD, RN, DiplAc
George DeVries, III
William Fair, MD
Joseph Fins, MD, FACP
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Wayne Jonas, MD
Linnea Larson, LCSW, LMFT
Tieraona Low Dog, MD, AHG
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Joseph E. Pizzorno, Jr, ND
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Geraldine Pollen, MA

Consultant Staff

Kenneth Fisher, PhD
Maureen Miller, MPH, RN
James Swyers, MA

April 6, 2001

J. Jarrett Clinton, M.D.
Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs
ASD-HA Room 3E-1082
1200 Defense Pentagon
Washington, D. C. 20301-1200

Dear Dr. Clinton:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the White House Commission on Complementary and Alternative Medicine Policy to request certain information in preparation for an upcoming meeting.

The President established this Commission in March of 2000 through Executive Order 13147. In carrying out its mandate, the Commission is addressing (1) coordinated research on complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) practices and products; (2) appropriate education and training of CAM and conventional health care practitioners; (3) dissemination of reliable information on CAM to health care providers and the general public; and (4) delivery and public access to CAM services. Additional information on the Commission is available at its Web site at www.whccamp.hhs.gov.

The Commission will meet May 14th through the 16th to discuss topic areas related to research as well as to coverage and reimbursement for CAM. As part of its deliberations, the Commissioners need to understand the role of the Department of Defense in these topic areas. To guide you in providing information of interest to the Commission, we have developed the questions outlined below. If in preparing your response you find information not specifically requested but related to the scope of the Commission, please provide us with the additional information.

To assist you, we have enclosed a listing of health care modalities that are generally considered to be CAM to serve as guidance. This list is not intended to be all-inclusive and does not reflect the consensus or opinion of the Commission regarding a definition CAM. If there are other health care practices that you consider to be unconventional and wish to include with your response, please do so.

Questions Related to Research

- Does DoD, or any of the service branches, support any research on CAM practices and programs? If so, please briefly describe the research and describe why these areas of research were selected.
- Does DoD coordinate CAM research efforts 1) across services 2) with other Federal agencies, and 3) with the private sector? What is needed to create or strengthen coordination of research among these sectors?
- What are the most promising areas of research on CAM interventions funded by DoD or its service branches, or elsewhere?
- What is needed to expand DoD efforts to bring CAM practices and products into mainstream medical research, e.g., research support, methodologies, education and training, incentives, etc.?
- What are the obstacles (conceptual or otherwise) and possible solutions to accomplishing integration of CAM into mainstream medical research?
- What can CAM perspectives and approaches contribute to investigations where there is overlap with conventional areas of research, e.g., nutrition, wellness/health promotion and disease prevention, pain management, women's health, self care, care for the terminally ill, etc.?
- What ideas, issues, and concerns regarding research on CAM can DoD offer for the Commission's consideration as it develops its policy recommendations and report to the President and Congress?

Questions Related to Coverage and Reimbursement

- What are the legislative, regulatory, and administrative parameters related to coverage of health benefits for active duty military, retirees, and dependents? How does DoD determine which benefits to add to its military/TRICARE health care programs?
- Does DoD include any CAM services and products at its military treatment facilities, or through the TRICARE program? Describe the history and use of chiropractic medicine in DOD.
- Does DoD have plans to incorporate new or additional CAM benefits? Explain. Does DOD, or any of its branches of service, cover or include on a formulary any herbs or dietary supplements?
- What does DoD consider as the most promising areas of CAM practice to incorporate into military/TRICARE health care programs? Explain.

- For CAM services provided at or through a military treatment facility, how are the costs of such services addressed? Describe any pertinent payment policies, payment procedures, budgeting, etc.
- For any CAM service provided outside of a military treatment facility, does DoD (or TRICARE or another contractor) determine whether the service is covered? Explain.
- For CAM services provided outside of a military treatment facility, how is the amount of payment determined? Describe any pertinent payment policies and procedures used by DoD or its service branches.
- What ideas and suggestions does DoD have for health services research related to access, coverage, and payment for CAM services and products?
- For CAM services covered, has DOD or its service branches established standards (e.g., education, training, licensure, certification) for the practitioners providing such services? Are any other quality monitors utilized?
- Does DoD or any of its service branches have any criteria, standards, or policies for the selection of dietary supplements available in the commissary and exchange system?
- Does DoD have any comment on the use of CAM products and services by active duty personnel?
- What ideas, issues, and concerns regarding coverage and payment for CAM can DoD provide the Commission as it develops its policy recommendations and report to the President and Congress?

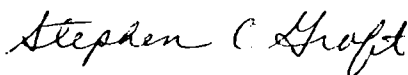
We would appreciate your response **by May 7** either by email or fax so that the Commissioners will have time to review it before the May meeting. You may email me at GroftS@mail.nih.gov or send a fax to 301-480-1691. Specific questions may be addressed to:

Research
Coverage/Reimbursement

Geraldine Pollen 301-435-6233
Maureen Miller 301-435-7592

Thank you for your attention to this information request.

Sincerely,



Stephen C. Groft, Pharm. D.
Executive Director

Enclosure

Common CAM Therapies

Acupuncture
Acupressure
Alexander Technique
Applied Kinesiology
Anthroposophic Medicine
Aromatherapy
Autogenic Training
Ayurvedic Medicine
Energy Medicine
Chiropractic
(Sacral) Cranial Osteopathy
Environmental Medicine
Herbal Medicine
Homeopathy
Hypnosis
Guided Imagery
Massage Therapy
Meditation
Naturopathy
Nutritional Therapy (Nutrition)
Reflexology
Relaxation and Visualization
Shiatsu
Spiritual Healing
Therapeutic Touch
Traditional Chinese and Oriental Medicine
Yoga

Adapted from Zollman C, Vickers A. What is Complementary Medicine?
British Medical Journal 1999, 319; 693-696

Hartsfield, Venus (CIT)

From: confirmations@mymeetings.com
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2001 8:37 AM
To: HARTSFIELD_VENUS@NIH.GOV
Subject: Details of Your Meeting: APR-09-2001, 01:00 PM (ET), Conf# 5117277

Please, do not reply to this e-mail.
Thank you for selecting FTS CONFERENCING conferencing services for your upcoming meeting. Please examine the details of your reservation to ensure they are correct. If you'd like to make any changes, call us at 877-855-4787. Should you need to cancel your call, please do so at least 30 minutes prior to its scheduled start to avoid cancellation charges.

MEETING INFORMATION:
=====**RESERVATION CONFIRMATION #: 5117277**

COMPANY: FTS-OD OAM
BILLING ADDRESS: 6120 EXECUTIVE BLVD STE 300
ROCKVILLE, MD 20852-4909
USA

CALL DATE: APR-09-2001 (Monday)
CALL TIME: 01:00 PM EASTERN TIME
DURATION: 1 hr 30 min
PRODUCT TYPE: UNATTENDED
CALL TYPE: MEET ME

OF LINES: Total=8 Dialout=0 Meet Me=8 Meet Me Toll=0
Entry Method: Tone In

LEADER: Ms Maureen Miller

PHONE #: 1-301-435-6232
DAY OF CALL PHONE #: 1-301-435-2211
Conference Contact: Ms Venus Hartsfield
PHONE #: 1-301-496-4516

FEATURES:
=====

Tones

AUDIO ACCESS INFORMATION:
=====

CALL DATE: APR-09-2001 (Monday)
CALL TIME: 01:00 PM EASTERN TIME
USA Toll Free Number: 888-324-3415

PASSCODE: 10551**LEADER:** Ms Maureen Miller**PARTICIPANTS:**
=====

PARTICIPANT	PHONE1	PHONE2	COMMENTS
Leader: Ms Maureen Miller (Will Call in)	1-301-435-2211		

Please let your meet-me participants know that for security reasons, the passcode 10551 and the leader's name will be required to join your call.

This confirmation contains confidential information that you may want to modify before forwarding to your participants.

Attn: Myra Franklin/Robert Cummings
FTS-OD OAM
6120 Executive Blvd. Ste. 300
Rockville, MD 20852-4516
Phone 301 496-4516
Fax: 301 496-2443

Please arrange a **Meet Me** conference call for **Monday, April 9, 2001**, at 1:00 p.m. EST until 2:30 p.m.

Note that this call spans several times zones.

Maureen Miller- Leader	301-435-2211	yes -
✓ George DeVries CA	619-557-2205	yes - Chris 619-557-2215
✓ Julia Scott MD	301-518-2698	yes
✓ Conchita Paz MM	505-522-5205	fax 505-522-9746
✓ Joe Fins NY	212-746-4246	yes Carolyn -
✓ Linnea Larson IL	708-445-1689	yes -
Donald Warren AR	501-745-4656	=
✓ Joe Pizzorno WA	206-361-4620	yes -

Bill:

White House Commission on Complementary and Alternative Medicine Policy
Contact person: Joan Albrecht or Doris Kingsbury
Phone: 301 435-7592
Fax: 301 480-1691

PLEASE FAX CONFIRMATION—DO NOT EMAIL.

Thank you.

*** TX REPORT ***

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO 0919
CONNECTION TEL 915055229746
SUBADDRESS
CONNECTION ID
ST. TIME 04/05 15:12
USAGE T 01'09
PGS. SENT 4
RESULT OK



Joan Albrecht
**WHITE HOUSE COMMISSION ON COMPLEMENTARY
AND ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE POLICY**

6701 Rockledge Drive
Rockledge II, Room 1010, Mail Stop 7707
Bethesda, Maryland 20817
Telephone: 301-435-7592 -- Facsimile: 301-480-1691

TO: Conchita M. Paz, MD

FAX: 505-522-9746

Total Pages including cover: 4

Albrecht, Joan (NCCAM)

From: Albrecht, Joan (NCCAM)
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2001 2:33 PM
To: 'georged@ashn.com'; 'jrsct6@cs.com'; 'cmapaz@totacc.com'; 'jjfins@mail.med.cornell.edu';
'linnealarson@mac.com'; 'drwarren@artelco.com'
Cc: 'ChrisW@ashn.com'; Albrecht, Joan (NCCAM)
Subject: Rough Cut – May Meeting



RoughCutrich.rtf

The above attachment is the May Meeting Agenda. The attachment is in Rich Text format.

Overview of May 14-15, Steve Groft walk through proposed agenda (attached). Maureen Miller Commissioner discussion.

Meet me conference call:

Call Date: April 9, 2001

Call Time: 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm EST

Toll Free Number to call: 888-324-3415

PASSCODE: 10551

Leader: Maureen Miller

If you have any questions or problems with the attachment please call me at 301-435-6198 or Maureen on Monday at 301-435-2211. I will be out of the office on Monday.

Thank you, Joan Albrecht

Rough Cut – May Meeting

DAY 1 -- Reimbursement

Opening Remarks Gordon/Groft	8:30 a.m.	
Health Care Financing in the U.S. Health economist/consultant <i>Suggested: Len Nichols</i>	8:45	(Timeframe: 8:45 to 9:45)
Commission Discussion	9:20 a.m.	
Panel 1: Federal Purchasers HCFA: Coverage and Payment Policy	9:45	(Timeframe: 9:45 to 11:10)
OPM/FEHBP	10:25	
Commission Discussion	10:40	
Break	11:10	
Panel 2: State Perspective National Governors' Association National Association of Insurance Commissioners National Association of State Legislators	11:30 11:40 11:50	(Timeframe: 11:30 to 12:30)
Commission Discussion	12:00	
LUNCH BREAK	12:30	(1 hour)
Panel 3: Employer Panel Fortune 500/large – Ford or GM Lucent Tech Small employer Employee/Union Washington or Pacific Business Group on Health	1:35 1:50 2:05 2:20 2:35	(Timeframe: 1:35 to 3:15) (10 to 15 min) (10 to 15 min) (10 to 15 min) (10 to 15 min) (10 min)
Commission Discussion	2:35	(40 min)
Break	3:15	

Panel 4: Health Plans and CAM Benefits		(Timeframe: 3:30 to 5:00)
Health Plan 1 <i>Suggested: Oxford</i>	3:30	(10 to 15 min)
Health Plan 2 <i>Suggested: Wellpoint</i>		(10 to 15 min)
Health Plan 3 <i>Suggested: Blue Cross</i>		(10 to 15 min)
Health Plan 4		(10 to 15 min)

Commission Discussion	4:20	(40 min)
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Panel 8: Vulnerable Populations		
Nathan Stinson – Minorities	5:00	(10 min)
Uninsured	5:10	(10 min)

Commission Discussion	5:20	
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Close Day 1	5:45	
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DAY 2 – Reimbursement (half day)

Morning Kickoff: Gordon/Groft	8:30	
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Panel 6: Health Insurance: National Perspective (Timeframe: 8:40 to 9:40)

American Association of Health Plans	8:40	(7 min)
Health Insurance Association of America		(7 min)
Blue Cross Blue Shield Association		(7 min)

Commission Discussion	9:00	(25 min)
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Panel 7: Provider Perspective (Timeframe: 9:25 to 10:15)

Provider 1 – “pros” of insurance coverage	9:25	(5 min)
Provider 2 – “cons” and concerns		(5 min)
Provider 3 – broad provider concerns		(10min)
<i>Suggested: John Weeks</i>		

Commission Discussion	9:45	(25 min)
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Break and Breakout Groups	10:10	
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Breakout Group Reports	11:30 to 11:45 am	
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Albrecht, Joan (NCCAM)

From: Albrecht, Joan (NCCAM)
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2001 2:36 PM
To: 'drpizzorno@qwest.net'
Subject: FW: Rough Cut – May Meeting

-----Original Message-----

From: Albrecht, Joan (NCCAM)
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2001 2:33 PM
To: 'georged@ashn.com'; 'jrsct6@cs.com'; 'cmapaz@totacc.com'; 'jjfins@mail.med.cornell.edu'; 'linnealarson@mac.com'; 'drwarren@artelco.com'
Cc: 'ChrisW@ashn.com'; Albrecht, Joan (NCCAM)
Subject: Rough Cut - May Meeting



RoughCutrich.rtf

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Meet me conference call:

Call Date: April 9, 2001

Call Time: 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm EST

Toll Free Number to call: 888-324-3415

PASSCODE: 10551

Leader: Maureen Miller

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Thank you, Joan Albrecht

*** TX REPORT ***

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO 0917
CONNECTION TEL 64516
SUBADDRESS
CONNECTION ID
ST. TIME 04/05 07:33
USAGE T 00'25
PGS. SENT 1
RESULT OK

Attn: Myra Franklin/Robert Cummings
FTS-OD OAM
6120 Executive Blvd. Ste. 300
Rockville, MD 20852-4516
Phone 301 496-4516
Fax: 301 496-2443

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until 2:30 p.m.

Note that this call spans several times zones.

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George DeVries 619-557-2205
Julia Scott 301-518-2698
Conchita Paz 505-522-5205
Joe Fins 212-746-4246
Linnea Larson 708-445-1689
Donald Warren 501-745-4656
Joe Pizzorno 206-361-4620

Bill:
White House Commission on Complementary and Alternative Medicine Policy
Contact person: Joan Albrecht or Doris Kingsbury
Phone: 301 435-7592
Fax: 301 480-1691

***** INFORMATION - DO NOT EMAIL *****

Julia Scott
George DeVries
Conchita Paz
Joe Fins
Linnea Larson
Donald Warren
Joe Pizzurno

Attn: Myra Franklin/Robert Cummings
FTS-OD OAM
6120 Executive Blvd. Ste. 300
Rockville, MD 20852-4516
Phone 301 496-4516
Fax: 301 496-2443

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Joe Pizzorno 206-361-4620

Bill:
White House Commission on Complementary and Alternative Medicine Policy
Contact person: Joan Albrecht or Doris Kingsbury
Phone: 301 435-7592
Fax: 301 480-1691

PLEASE FAX CONFIRMATION—DO NOT EMAIL.

Thank you.

Albrecht, Joan (NCCAM)

From: Groat, Stephen (NCCAM)
Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2001 8:23 AM
To: Albrecht, Joan (NCCAM); Axelrod, Corinne (NCCAM); Chang, Michele (NCCAM); Fisher, Ken (NCCAM); Jim Swyers; Kaczmarczyk, Joseph (NCCAM); Kingsbury, Doris (NCCAM); Miller, Maureen (NCCAM); Pollen, Geraldine (NCCAM)
Subject: FW: BC/BS Director Asked to Testify before WHCCAMP

-----Original Message-----

From: Greene, Anita (NCCAM)
Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2001 7:49 AM
To: Straus, Stephen (NCCAM)
Cc: Hoover, Camille (NCCAM); Groat, Stephen (NCCAM)
Subject: BC/BS Director Asked to Testify before WHCCAMP

Blue Cross Alternative Medicine Director Invited to Speak at White House

COLUMBIA, S.C., May 7 /PRNewswire/ -- Blue Cross and Blue Shield of South Carolina's director of [complementary and [alternative medicine]] has been invited to testify before the White House Commission on [Complementary and Alternative Medicine] Policy in Washington, D.C. on May 14, 2001.

Rick Gallion is scheduled to participate in the meeting as part of a panel discussing health plan perspectives. He has been asked to present information about Blue Cross and Blue Shield of South Carolina's [alternative medicine] program, Natural Blue, including the company's rationale to offer such programs and the payment mechanisms it uses. The meeting, which takes place all day on May 14 and during the morning of May 15, will focus on the coverage and reimbursement of [complementary and [alternative medicine]].

The White House Commission on Complementary and [Alternative Medicine] Policy was established in March 2000 through Executive Order 13147. In carrying out its mandate, the Commission addresses such issues as coordinated research on [complementary and [alternative medicine]] practices and products. It also is studying appropriate education and training for complementary and [alternative medicine] providers and conventional healthcare physicians. Another focus is dissemination of reliable information to healthcare professionals and the general public. The commission also focuses on delivery and public access to complementary and alternative services. Its Web site is www.whccamp.hhs.gov.

Blue Cross is the first health insurer in South Carolina to provide benefits covering [alternative medicine] therapies through its HMO Blue subsidiary. The benefits cover chiropractic, acupuncture and massage therapy and are offered through Natural Blue, Blue Cross' alternative and [complementary medicine] program. Members of the company's other health plans and HMOs -- Blue Cross, Companion HealthCare and Planned Administrators, Inc. -- receive discounts on alternative healthcare through a network of credentialed providers in South Carolina.

Gallion said, "We are excited to be recognized as a national leader in integrating complementary and alternative programs with other insurance products. Our Natural Blue program illustrates our commitment to providing our members with more options that promote better health and wellness."

Thomas G. Faulds, president and chief operating officer of the company's Blue Cross division, said, "Our members asked for access to complementary methods of healthcare, and we listened. Natural Blue provides them with that access. We are pleased to be among the first to offer such programs."

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of South Carolina is the largest health insurance provider in South Carolina and is the first in the state to develop a complementary healthcare program. It is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

Albrecht, Joan (NCCAM)

From: Chang, Michele (NCCAM)
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2001 5:10 PM
To: Groft, Stephen (NCCAM); Miller, Maureen (NCCAM); Kingsbury, Doris (NCCAM); Pollen, Geraldine (NCCAM); Axelrod, Corinne (NCCAM); Albrecht, Joan (NCCAM); Kaczmarczyk, Joseph (NCCAM)
Cc: Jean Kazares (E-mail); Anita Allen (E-mail); Ellie Dorsey (E-mail); Eric Harlan (E-mail); Craig Powers (E-mail)
Subject: Where is Mi?

I have two doc appts on Monday that will probably make it impossible for me to get into to work on Monday before our Palladian deadline.

I've e-mailed Palladian and Steve the most recent preliminary agenda, which should NOT be considered final until Tuesday morning. That is when we will make the final cuts on the public comment session and send it to the website.

Doris, please make sure that the Monday package includes Joe's Access and Delivery packet (the Packet #2 we FEDEXED out yesterday). I have already e-mailed Palladian the updated rosters for the Commissioners and the public.

Gerry and Maureen would like to be able to go to Palladian on Tuesday (morning?) once a master BB is ready to be reviewed. Since Gerry is likely to also be out of the office on Monday when the package goes to Palladian, this may be a very good idea (provided a master can be ready to be looked at before traffic gets bad....)

Ellie and Anita: can you please advise Doris on Monday when Gerry and Maureen can come over to see a master BB before it gets copied? Thanks.

Maureen, don't forget to include the piece that we fedexed out already in what goes to Palladian on Monday. I would guess it goes under your first tab? Make sure that all your pieces are clearly marked as to which tab it belongs under.

Have a good weekend all and I'll be in touch on Monday. Doris knows how to get a hold of me.

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