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United States Government Accountability Office
Washington, DC 20548

December 4, 2007

The Honorable John D. Dingell
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce
House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We received your letter dated November 26, 2007, jointly signed by Chairman Bart T. Stupak, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, requesting that the Government Accountability Office review the Food and Drug Administration's program for granting accreditation to third-party organizations to conduct inspections of medical device manufacturers in foreign countries.

GAO accepts your request as work that is within the scope of its authority. Your request has been assigned to Dr. Marjorie Kanof, Managing Director, Health Care, who has staff available to begin the work. Dr. Kanof or a member of her team will contact Mr. Christopher Knauer to discuss the request, your needs, and the engagement objectives, scope, and methodology in accordance with GAO's protocols. As applicable, we will also be in contact with the cognizant Inspector General's office to ensure that we are not duplicating efforts. If an issue arises during this coordination, we will consult with you regarding its resolution.

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Kanof at 202-512-5055 or Ms. Rosa Harris, Assistant Director for Congressional Relations, on my staff at 202-512-9492.

Sincerely yours,

Gloria L. Jarmon
Managing Director for
Congressional Relations

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