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March 10, 2008

Senator Charles Grassley  
Ranking Member, Committee on Finance  
United States Senate  
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**Via Electronic Transmission and FedEx**

Dear Senator Grassley:

Thank you for your letter of February 26, 2008 (the "Letter"). Stryker Corporation ("Stryker") appreciates the opportunity to address the Committee's question concerning the transparency of Stryker's financial relationships with medical organizations.

Your letter posed the question:

*I am writing to ask what steps your company is taking, or planning to take, to enhance the transparency of your financial relationships with these medical organizations. If your company does not yet have any efforts or plans in place, please explain why not.*

Over the course of the past year, Stryker has taken important steps to enhance the transparency of its financial relationships with medical organizations and is currently a leader in this area. As part of a Non Prosecution Agreement (NPA) entered into with the United States Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey, Stryker Orthopaedics agreed to disclose payments made to both physicians and medical organizations. A patient may look up the nature of Stryker Orthopaedics' financial relationship with a surgeon that the patient may be using or interested in using for an important medical procedure. Stryker Orthopaedics disclosed payments made in 2007 and will update the information quarterly in accordance with the terms of the NPA. Stryker will change or expand its disclosures based on current market conditions and laws.

This information is easy for patients to find, as there is a clear link under the Corporate Compliance heading on Stryker's home webpage ([www.stryker.com](http://www.stryker.com)) directing users to the Stryker Orthopaedics webpage. Stryker believes that this direct link is even more accessible and user friendly than the one on the pharmaceutical company's site that was referred to in your letter as a possible positive example to emulate.

Stryker Orthopaedics currently discloses this important information in two formats so that patients may choose the format with which they are most comfortable. Financial relationships with medical organizations and physicians are listed in alphabetical order to allow patients to easily search for an organization or physician of interest. For physician listings, Stryker Orthopaedics also provides payments by category so that patients may easily understand the reason for a payment. The web address to find the information is: [http://www.stryker.com/meetourconsultants/consultants/consultants\\_location.php](http://www.stryker.com/meetourconsultants/consultants/consultants_location.php)

March 10, 2008  
Senator Charles Grassley  
Page 2 of 2

There is also a second area of Stryker Orthopaedics' website, titled "Meet our Consultants" where a patient may search for a physician by the first initial of the physician's last name. Upon finding a physician, a patient will see a photograph of the physician, a link to the physician's curriculum vitae (CV) and a payment history with Stryker. In this section, Stryker Orthopaedics outlines the key contributions and innovations of each physician. This section is a simple way for patients to find information about individual physicians and their important work with Stryker. This information may be found at the following web site: <http://www.stryker.com/meetourconsultants/consultants/consultants.php>

Medical organizations are involved in a variety of activities that strengthen patient care and the healthcare system. Stryker believes that it is important to support such efforts.

As a member of the Advanced Medical Technology Association (AdvaMed), Stryker shares AdvaMed's position on the Physician Payments Sunshine Act and appreciates your willingness to consider AdvaMed's recommended enhancements to the legislation.

Stryker supports the appropriate disclosure of the relationships between medical device manufacturers and physicians and looks forward to working with you as your legislation progresses.

I trust this letter is responsive to your inquiry. Stryker appreciates the opportunity to respond to the Committee's question.

Very truly yours,



Stephen P. MacMillan  
President and Chief Executive Officer, Stryker Corporation

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