

**MEETING MINUTES
OF THE
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES
MEDICARE EVIDENCE DEVELOPMENT AND COVERAGE
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

May 21, 2008

**Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland**

Medicare Evidence Development and Coverage Advisory Committee

May 21, 2008

Attendees

Acting Chair

Saty Satya-Murti, M.D., M.Sc.

Panel Members

Marion Danis, M.D.

Daniel D. Foley, M.D.

Mark D. Grant, M.D., M.P.H.

Spencer H. Kubo, M.D.

Stephen L. Ondra, M.D.

Stephen Pauker, M.D.

Andrew Sloan, M.D., F.A.C.S.

Jonathan P. Weiner, Ph.D.

Patient Advocate

Leslie B. Fried, J.D.

CMS Liaison

Louis Jacques, M.D.

Consumer Representative

Randel Richner, B.S.N., M.P.H.

Industry Representative

Jose Alvir, Dr.P.H.

Guest Panel Members

Naomi Lynn Hurwitz-Gerber, M.D.

Elliott J. Roth, M.D.

Executive Secretary

Maria Ellis

Wednesday, May 21, 2008, 8:15 a.m.

The Medicare Evidence Development and Coverage Advisory Committee met on May 21, 2008, to discuss the evidence, hear presentations and public comments, and make recommendations concerning the design and methodological issues that challenge clinical research regarding innovative neurorehabilitation techniques.

The meeting began with a discussion of conflict of issue matters, opening remarks by the CMS liaison and acting chair, followed by an introduction of the panel members.

CMS Presentation and Voting Questions. The lead analyst for this meeting presented the panel with the goals and agenda for the meeting and read the questions that would be discussed and voted upon by the panel. The lead medical officer then gave an overview of current CMS practice regarding requests for coverage for stroke-related technologies, background on stroke and its effects and current treatments.

Technology Assessment Presentation. Results of the technology assessment were presented by representatives of the McMaster University Evidence-Based Practice Center.

Guest Speakers. The panel heard from two invited guest speakers. The first spoke on the topic of selecting outcomes to inform policy, and the second on what constitutes a meaningful change in terms of health policy. Following each speaker's presentation they responded to questions from the panel.

Scheduled Public Speakers. The panel heard from a representative of American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, an individual clinician/professor, a representative of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, a representative

of Neurotech Network, and a representative of the National Association of Rehab Providers and Agencies.

Open Public Comments. A private consultant addressed the panel.

Questions to Presenters. An extensive question and answer session was held between the panel, presenters and commenters.

Initial Panel Discussion. The panel conducted an extensive initial discussion prior to casting their votes. During the discussion the panel agreed to add a sixth category, “don’t know,” to questions four through seven. The panel also agreed to modify questions four through eight to add the phrase “or comparable measures which have been validated as” following the word “measures” in the first line of each question, and to delete the word “is” at the end of the first line.

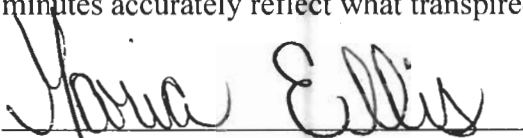
Formal Remarks and Voting. The panel voted on voting questions and made specific discussion points on the discussion-only questions. Panelists displayed their numerical votes, which were recorded by staff. During the voting process, it was the consensus of the panel on question eight to vote separately on question 8.A referring to narratives and on question 8.B as currently validated scales.

Final Open Panel Discussion. Following the votes, each member was given an opportunity to express any comment they wished CMS to specifically consider.

Final Remarks. Before adjournment, Dr. Jacques and Dr. Satya-Murti thanked the panelists and other participants.

Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 3:19 p.m.

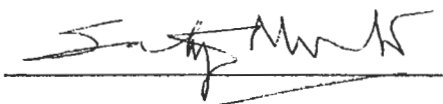
I certify that I attended the meeting of the MedCAC
Committee on May 21, 2008, and that these
minutes accurately reflect what transpired.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maria Ellis", written over a horizontal line.

Maria Ellis

Executive Secretary, MedCAC, CMS

I approve the minutes of this meeting
as recorded in this summary.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Saty Satya-Murti", written over a horizontal line.

Saty Satya-Murti, M.D., F.A.A.N.

Vice Chair