



American Urological Association

March 2008

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Dear Doctor:

The American Urological Association (AUA) is currently co-sponsoring a national study of physicians in our specialty with the American Medical Association. My purpose in writing you is to provide some background information on the study and encourage your participation in the event that you are selected to participate.

The objective of this study is to collect up-to-date information on physician practice characteristics in order to positively influence national decision makers while further developing and refining AMA and AUA policy. As a society representing the specific interests of our medical specialty, AUA fully endorses this project. Its aim is to provide your practice, and many others like it, a clear, collective voice to educate decision makers and payors about the clinical, operational, and financial challenges that are faced in medicine today.

This study represents our specialty's opportunity to communicate accurate financial and operational information to policymakers including members of Congress and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Strong participation in this study will ensure that the voice and priorities of our medical specialty (both member and non-member) are clearly heard so they can accurately shape the on-going debate.

The Physician Practice Information (PPI) survey began in January 2007 and is being administered by Dmrkynetec. Throughout calendar year 2007, Dmrkynetec will contact randomly selected physicians and practice managers/administrators in order to collect their confidential responses. If you and your practice are selected to participate, a packet outlining the specifics will be mailed to you from Dmrkynetec and the AMA in late March 2008. Please consider making your staff aware of the importance of this study to our specialty so they may appropriately forward this information to you.

Thank you in advance for your time and I hope that you will have the opportunity to participate in the PPI survey so that your voice can be one of many to accurately represent our specialty.

Sincerely,

Paul F. Schellhammer, M.D.
President

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