



AMERICAN
PSYCHOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

SERVICES, INC.

June 10, 2019

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Chairman, Senate Finance Committee
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ron Wyden
Ranking Member, Senate Finance Committee
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Wyden,

On behalf of the American Psychological Association (APA), we are pleased to express our strong support for the reauthorization of the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI).

Our health care system requires solutions that are both evidence-based and patient-centered, to improve care while also addressing health care spending. PCORI is uniquely set up to meet this challenge, as it is the only organization dedicated to funding comparative clinical effectiveness research (CER) studies comparing which treatment approaches work best, for which patients, given their needs and preferences.

APA has been gratified to see PCORI's emphasis on mental and behavioral health as a research domain. From its inception in 2010, PCORI has funded more research in that category than any other. As of April 2019, PCORI awarded \$517 million for 126 comparative clinical effectiveness research studies related to mental health. Psychological scientists are currently serving as principal investigators on 72 projects many of which are in traditional domains of mental health such as attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, serious mental illness, and traumatic brain injury. However, with psychology playing an ever-increasing role in integrated care settings, PCORI-funded psychologists are also conducting research on low back pain, sleep apnea, treatment strategies for sickle cell anemia, and medical decision-making.

APA is the leading scientific and professional organization representing psychology in the United States and is the world's largest association of psychologists. Composed of researchers, educators, clinicians, consultants, and students, APA works to advance the creation, communication, and application of psychological knowledge to benefit society and improve people's lives.

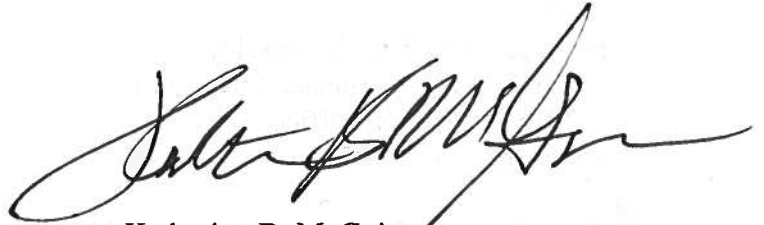
We look forward to working with you to reauthorize PCORI with the goal of helping health care providers and payers better understand health care treatment options and helping patients and those who care for them to make better informed health and health care decisions. Delivering care that is most clinically effective and incorporates outcomes that matter to patients is both cost effective and essential to our well-being as a nation.

If we can provide any additional information, please have your staff contact Geoff Mumford, Ph.D., Associative Executive Director of the Science Government Relations Office, at gmumford@apa.org or (202) 336-6067.

Sincerely,



Russell Shilling, Ph.D.
Chief Scientific Officer



Katherine B. McGuire
Chief Advocacy Officer

