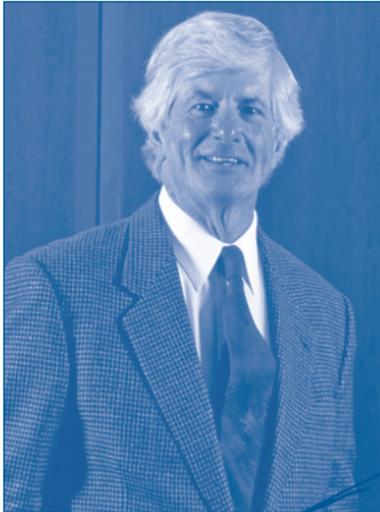


News from the Chairman

Update on the revision of the Board's Excessive Price Guidelines

On March 26, 2009, the Board issued its final Notice and Comment on the Draft Revised Excessive Price Guidelines.

In early April, Board Staff held a series of briefing sessions with stakeholders, summarizing the proposed changes incorporated in the Draft Revised Guidelines since the August package and offering stakeholders an opportunity to raise questions and obtain clarification on the final draft of the Guidelines. In total, 30 stakeholders took part in the final phase of our consultation process by submitting written comments on the March Draft Revised Guidelines.



The Board is currently reviewing the submissions and will be releasing the revised Guidelines in early June with implementation planned to take effect on July 1, 2009.

These new revised Guidelines come after a long period of consultation initiated in 2005. On behalf of my colleagues, I wish to thank all who have taken part in these consultations. Your time and efforts in providing thoughtful comments on the perspectives of your constituency are most appreciated. ■

A blue-tinted signature of Brien G. Benoit, MD, Chairman. The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned below the main text, overlapping the bottom edge of the portrait image.

Brien G. Benoit, MD, Chairman

Submissions on the March 2009 Notice and Comment on the Draft Revised Excessive Price Guidelines are available on our Web site under Consultations; Consultations on the Board's Excessive Price Guidelines.