



## Sound Policy. Quality Care.

July 9, 2015

Dear Representative:

**The Alliance of Specialty Medicine urges you to vote “yes” on the House passage of H.R. 6, the “21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act.”** The Alliance is a coalition of national medical societies representing specialty physicians in the U.S. and is dedicated to the development of sound federal health care policy that fosters patient access to the highest quality specialty care. We greatly appreciate your leadership to improve the discovery, development and delivery that support continued innovation in our health care system.

The Alliance has watched the development of legislation in this area and is particularly interested in the following areas:

- Reauthorization of the National Institutes of Health;
- Establishing a streamlined process for qualifying and utilizing surrogate endpoints in clinical research trials;
- Permitting data sharing without relinquishing data ownership;
- Creation of an innovation fund to foster the discovery, development, and delivery of medical innovation;
- Standardizing data in clinical trial registry data bank;
- Developing a centralized institutional review board (IRB);
- Fostering telemedicine/telehealth;
- Promoting interoperability;
- Clarifying the continuing medical education (CME) exemption for the Sunshine Rule;
- Facilitating responsible communication of scientific and medical developments, including off-label uses (for additional information, please see the Alliance’s position statement titled “[Physician Directed Applications](http://www.specialtydocs.org/files/Alliance_Off-label_Statement_5.2.14.pdf)”).  
*\*[http://www.specialtydocs.org/files/Alliance\\_Off-label\\_Statement\\_5.2.14.pdf](http://www.specialtydocs.org/files/Alliance_Off-label_Statement_5.2.14.pdf)*

The Alliance appreciates this ongoing process toward the final passage of bipartisan legislation and looks forward to continuing to work with you on this initiative. Please let us know if our expertise may be of assistance.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Facial Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery  
American Association of Neurological Surgeons  
American College of Mohs Surgery  
American Gastroenterological Association  
American Society for Dermatologic Surgery Association  
American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery  
American Society of Echocardiography  
American Society of Plastic Surgeons  
American Urological Association  
Coalition of State Rheumatology Organizations  
Congress of Neurological Surgeons  
National Association of Spine Specialists  
Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions  
Society for Excellence in Eyecare