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Interim Final Rules Under the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008

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General Comment

I have been a mental health practitioner for 20 years, with a specialization in the physical rehabilitation of chronic pain disorders. I have seen first hand, with thousands of patients, that mental health and physical health are intimately connected. Most chronic pain patients do not get better without out addressing the mental health component of their physical disability. Cognitive/behavioral treatments, including biofeedback training, are particularly effective for helping chronic pain patients learn increased mental control over physical symptoms, resulting in decreased disability and increased function. I strongly support this parity act.