



May 8, 2018

Chairman Greg Walden
House Energy and Commerce Committee
House Rayburn Building 2123

Ranking Member Frank Pallone
House Energy and Commerce Committee
House Rayburn Building 2123

Dear Chairman Walden and Ranking Member Pallone,

AdvaMed commends the Energy and Commerce Committee for its ongoing work to address the opioid epidemic and is pleased to add our voice of support for legislation being considered by the Committee.

AdvaMed is the world's largest association representing manufacturers of medical devices, diagnostic products, and medical information systems. AdvaMed member companies produce technologies that are transforming health care through earlier disease detection, less invasive procedures and more effective treatments. AdvaMed's members produce nearly 90 percent of the health care technology purchased annually in the United States and more than 50 percent of such technology purchased annually around the world. AdvaMed members range from the largest to the smallest medical technology innovators and companies. Nearly 70 percent of our members have less than \$30 million in annual sales.

As you are aware, the opioid epidemic is devastating individuals, families and communities throughout the United States. We appreciate your focus on this critical issue and appreciate that your legislation recognizes that medical technologies play an important role in combatting the opioids crisis. Medical technology solutions have the potential to reduce our country's dependence on opioids in many ways, including:

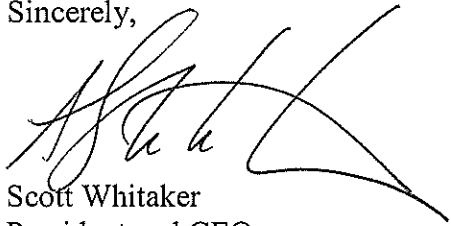
- serving as alternatives to manage acute and chronic pain before the first opioid is prescribed;
- monitoring pain and medication use;
- blocking difficult withdrawal symptoms and preventing overdose;
- improving medication management, lowering dependence and addiction, and monitoring dosage; and
- preventing diversion and inappropriate access to opioids.

Additionally, medical technology companies are developing innovations that are minimally-invasive, enabling patients to return to routine activities in a shorter period of time, while experiencing less pain and discomfort after surgery.

In particular, we support the provisions in H.R. 5473, the “Better Pain Management through Better Data Act of 2018,” that seek to clarify the regulatory pathway for non-addictive medical products that are intended to treat pain. Additionally, we appreciate the inclusion of non-opioid, medical device pain management treatments in H.R. 5685, the “Medicare Opioid Safety Education Act,” and H.R. 5686, the “Medicare Clear Health Options in Care for Enrollees Act.”

Thank you for tackling this important issue that threatens every part of our country. We are committed to working with you to address the opioid crisis in America and to help ensure that patients have the care options they need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Whitaker', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Scott Whitaker
President and CEO
AdvaMed