



**OSTEOPATHIC
Physicians & Surgeons
OF CALIFORNIA**

KATHLEEN S. CREASON, MBA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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D.O. Physicians Treating People, Not Just Symptoms

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January 24, 2006

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The Honorable Mike Leavitt, Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Hubert Humphrey Building
200 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 615F
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Leavitt:

The Osteopathic Physicians & Surgeons of California (OPSC), representing the nearly 4,000 osteopathic physicians and surgeons licensed in the State of California, commends the January 18, 2006 decision by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) that revises the format and content of prescription drug labels.

OPSC supports the FDA efforts to make prescription drug labels simpler for patients to understand and easier for physicians to identify relevant information. The "Patient Counseling Information Section" should help give patients clear, understandable information so they can make educated decisions about their medications. The "Highlights of Prescribing Information" should assist physicians as they review the most important drug information and make prescribing decisions for their patients.

The FDA is to be applauded for establishing this rule that creates a consistent federal requirement in the interest of patient safety.

Sincerely,

James M. Lally, DO
President

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