

Dr. Hussain _____ stock interests are not so substantial as to preclude her participation in this meeting. These interests represent less than 5% of their total net worth.

It is also important to consider that Dr. Hussain's stock interests are in competing firms and not in the company whose product is coming before the committee for consideration. Even if it is likely that the committee's recommendations could have an affect on these companies it would likely be minimal at best. These firms are large, diverse pharmaceutical firms that manufacture and distribute a large number of products. They do not depend on one or two products for their economic survival. Given the above considerations, I believe that the potential for a conflict of interest is minimal.

Further, the Federal Advisory Committee Act requires that committee memberships be fairly balanced in terms of the points of view represented and the functions to be performed by the various advisory committee members and Dr. Hussain's participation will contribute to the balance of views represented and the diversity of opinions and expertise. The Committee's intended purpose would be significantly impaired if the agency could not call upon experts who have become eminent in their fields, notwithstanding the financial interests and affiliations they may have acquired as a result of their demonstrated abilities. Dr. Maha Hussain is Professor of Internal Medicine and Urology at the University of Michigan. She specializes in medical oncology and genitourinary cancer and her main research interest is clinical research to develop new therapies for the treatment of prostate, bladder, and kidney cancer. Prior to joining the University of Michigan, Dr. Hussain served as the genitourinary oncology section chief in the division of hematology/oncology and team leader for the Multidisciplinary Genitourinary Oncology Program at the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute. She is a national expert and leader in the management of prostate and bladder cancer and chairs the Advisory Prostate Cancer Subcommittee at the Southwest Oncology Group. Dr. Hussain is the author of more than 60 articles and book chapters. I believe that

