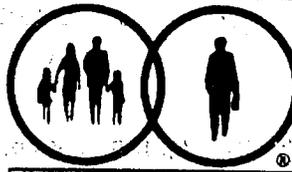




**FLORIDA
MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION**



Florida Academy of Family Physicians



FLORIDA OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

RECEIVED
Feb 03 2006 11:48:14 WSM D6
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
CORRESPONDENCE
CONTROL CENTER
Florida Medical Association ■ 123 S. Adams Street ■ Tallahassee, Florida 32301

January 25, 2006

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

RECEIVED
2006 FEB -3 A 11:19
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
COMMUNICATIONS CONTROL
CENTER

Dear Secretary Leavitt:

On behalf of the 22,000 members of the Florida Medical Association, Florida Osteopathic Medical Association and the Florida Academy of Family Physicians, we wish to applaud you Mr. Secretary, HHS and the FDA for its efforts to simplify the often complicated and incomprehensible language in package inserts that our patients receive with their prescription medications. The language is not only much more consumer friendly, it is our hope that there will be a significant decrease in the incidence of medical errors associated with prescription medication.

We especially commend the HHS and the FDA for providing much needed liability relief to practicing physicians, especially in states like Florida, where professional liability rates have skyrocketed forcing some of our members to either retire early or leave our wonderful state, a state awash with retirees and aging baby-boomers.

Know that Florida's physicians stand ready to assure that this new rule is implemented for the safety of our patients.

Sincerely,

Sandra L. Argenio, MD

Sandra Argenio, M.D.
President
Florida Academy
of Family Physicians

Troy Tippet, MD

Troy Tippet, M.D.
President
Florida Medical Association

Joseph Giaimo, D.O.

Joseph Giaimo, D.O.
President
Florida Osteopathic
Medical Association

CC: Senator Steve Wise
Senator Dan Webster
Representative Dudley Goodlette
Representative Dick Kravitz

2006N-1269

C 73