

June 6, 2017



Josh Morse  
Program Director  
Health Technology Assessment  
Washington Health Care Authority  
P.O. Box 42712  
Olympia, WA 98504-2712

Via Email: [shtap@hca.wa.gov](mailto:shtap@hca.wa.gov)

**Subject: Multisociety Support for Dr. Virtaj Singh's Nomination to the Washington Health Care Authority's Health Technology Clinical Committee**

Dear. Mr. Morse:

The Spine Intervention Society (SIS), a multi-specialty association of over 2,600 physicians dedicated to the development and promotion of the highest standards for the practice of interventional procedures in the diagnosis and treatment of spine pain, is pleased to nominate Virtaj Singh, MD, for a position on the Washington Health Care Authority's Health Technology Clinical Committee (HTCC). The American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (AAPM&R), a national medical specialty organization representing more than 10,000 physicians who are specialists in physical medicine and rehabilitation; and the Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR), a professional medical society representing more than 7,000 practicing interventional radiology physicians, trainees, medical students, scientists, and clinical associates would also like to support his nomination.

Dr. Singh is a practicing, Board-certified physiatrist from Seattle, Washington, and Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Washington in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. His experience and knowledge of physical medicine/rehabilitation, interventional spine care, coverage issues, and evidence-based medicine would make him an excellent member of the HTCC.

Dr. Singh has been an active member of the SIS Health Policy Division for three years. As a member of the Division, he has been integral in reviewing and commenting on medical coverage policies and advocating for access to interventional spine procedures for appropriately selected patients. Dr. Singh is also an SIS representative to the Multisociety Pain Workgroup (MPW), which includes 14 medical specialty societies comprising physicians who perform spinal injection procedures and those whose practices rely on them in determining appropriateness of more invasive surgical treatments. Throughout all of these initiatives, Dr. Singh has demonstrated strong

leadership, excellent communication skills, and an ability to work with physicians across multiple specialties.

Additionally, Dr. Singh has successfully completed our evidence-based medicine curriculum. He has achieved SIS Accreditation in Assessing Studies of Treatment (July 2015) and SIS Accreditation in Assessing Studies of Diagnostic Tests and Strategies (September 2016).

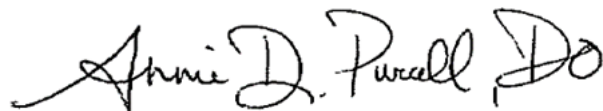
Dr. Singh's clinical expertise along with his knowledge of coverage issues and evidence-based medicine will enable him to be an invaluable asset to the HTCC. SIS, AAPM&R, and SIR strongly encourage you to consider Dr. Singh for this important position.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "MacVicar".

John MacVicar, MB ChB  
President  
Spine Intervention Society

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Annie D. Purcell DO".

Annie Purcell, DO  
Chair, Reimbursement and Policy Review Committee  
American Academy of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Douglas Beall MD".

Douglas Beall, MD  
Chair, Service Line for Interventional Pain Management  
Society of Interventional Radiology