



ALLIANCE

for ACADEMIC INTERNAL MEDICINE

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August 28, 2023

Marc Meisnere
Senior Program Officer
Health and Medicine Division
National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine
500 Fifth Street NW
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mr. Meisnere:

On behalf of the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine (AAIM), thank you for your leadership within the National Academies Standing Committee on Primary Care. AAIM appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Provisional Committee Appointments. AAIM has consistently advocated for support and funding for primary care and was a sponsor of the NASEM Committee on Implementing High-Quality Primary Care.

AAIM represents more than 12,000 faculty and staff in departments of internal medicine at medical schools and teaching hospitals. AAIM is dedicated to the advancement and professional development of its members who prepare the next generation of internal medicine physicians and leaders through education, research, engagement, and collaboration.

AAIM is pleased to see the establishment of the Standing Committee on Primary Care but is concerned that internal medicine is not adequately represented. The description indicates that the standing committee will maintain surveillance of the primary care field, including published studies and changes in clinical practices and policies, as well as discussing relevant data. AAIM is concerned that limited internal medicine representation will limit the committee's ability to successfully conduct its work.

Internal medicine is the specialty with the largest number of active physicians specializing in primary care, yet only two internal medicine physicians are listed in the provisional committee appointments. In addition to greater internal medicine representation, AAIM recommends considering individuals from community-based teaching hospitals, which provide a significant portion of primary care in the United States.

Again, thanks. If you have any questions about this letter, please contact AAIM Senior Director of Education and Research Margaret A. Breida at (703) 341-4570 or mbreida@im.org.

Sincerely,

Polly E. Parsons MD, MACP, FCCP, ATSF
President and Chief Executive Officer