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John C. Lewin, M.D.

April 1, 2008

The Honorable Charles Grassley  
Ranking Member  
Senate Finance Committee  
135 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Grassley:

I am in receipt of your letter from March 31 regarding the ENHANCE trial at the American College of Cardiology's (ACC) 57th Annual Scientific Session.

The Session is the largest meeting of the year where cardiologists and cardiovascular specialists have the opportunity to share the newest discoveries in treatment and prevention.

The ACC represents cardiovascular physicians and cardiac care team members in the United States, in addition to growing numbers of international cardiovascular professionals. Our mission is to advocate for quality cardiovascular care through education, research, promotion development and application of standards, guidelines, and we undertake these responsibilities with a commitment to the highest standards of professionalism.

In keeping with our mission, the ACC strongly believes that meticulous attention must be given to ensure appropriate policies and mechanisms are in place to ensure that development of educational content and scientific policy positions are never compromised or influenced by industry relationships.

As you recognize, the ACC has strong policies in place to further minimize even the appearance of industry influence. Generating and disseminating unbiased and objective scientific information is the cornerstone of the educational mission of the ACC.

We recognize the concerns regarding the delayed release of the data in the ENHANCE trial, and we were pleased to be able to provide a scientific venue to discuss the complete data from this study, and a forum to discuss the implications of the data on behalf of our members and their patients. Our statement regarding the study is attached.

As noted in our recent discussions with your staff, we look forward to working with and assisting you in the future to improve transparency between industry and the physician community.

Sincerely,

Jack Lewin, M.D.  
Chief Executive Officer



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