



THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

August 10, 2010

Christopher R. Snell, Ph.D.
Chair, Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Advisory Committee
Professor and Chair
University of the Pacific
Department of Sports Sciences
3601 Pacific Avenue
Stockton, CA 95211

Dear Dr. Snell:

I would like to thank you and the Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Advisory Committee (CFSAC) for the recommendations produced at your May 2010 meeting. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) welcomes the Committee's observations, and I have asked the relevant agencies in HHS to consider the recommendations and to report on their progress at the next CFSAC meeting.

This is an exciting time in our understanding of chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS). The continued accumulation of science on potentially associated viruses, and improvements in our knowledge of the natural history of the illness, are beginning to shed new light on this poorly understood condition. HHS agencies have planned several scientific forums over the next year in which these findings will be presented, and I understand CFSAC is convening its own day of scientific updates this fall.

Thank you and the Committee for your dedication and commitment to advancing knowledge and awareness of CFS. I look forward to working with you on this critical health issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathleen Sebelius".

Kathleen Sebelius