

Resume Kevin T. Kavanagh, MD, MS, FACS

Kevin T. Kavanagh, MD, MS is a prematurely retired otolaryngologist due to cervical disk disease. Over the past four years he has been very active in healthcare policy, value purchasing and transparency in healthcare. He has written over 20 Op-Eds regarding healthcare policy in major Kentucky State newspapers (<http://www.healthwatchusa.org/editorials.htm>) and is a monthly guest on a Lexington, KY radio talk-show regarding healthcare.

Dr Kavanagh is also very concerned with healthcare oversight and governance. He recently organized an initiative with 20 other consumer advocates and advocate organizations around the nation to submit a comment on the proposed governance of Accountable Care Organizations.

<http://www.healthwatchusa.org/HWUSA-Initiatives/PDF-Downloads/ACO-Berwick-11b.pdf>

He has also been active in describing the impact of facility fees and place of service payment discrepancies on promoting healthcare integration integration contributing to the increasing cost of healthcare. http://www.facs.org/fellows_info/bulletin/2011/kavanagh0611.pdf

Dr. Kavanagh has also been very active in the promotion of value purchasing. He helped initiate the initiative of requiring Medicaid to adopt Medicare Regulations. He partnered with Consumer Union to successfully advocate and enact Federal Legislation to require Medicaid adoption of Medicare regulations on the non-payment of Hospital Acquired Conditions.

<http://www.healthwatchusa.org/downloads/20081219-CU-Medicaid-Adopt-Medicare.pdf>

In addition, a manuscript on “Financial Incentives to Promote Healthcare Quality, The Hospital Acquired Conditions Nonpayment Policy”. Is scheduled for publication in the September 2011 issue of the Journal of Social Work in Public Health (Formally, the Journal of Health and Social Policy).

<http://www.healthwatchusa.org/references/20110302-Updated-Draft-HAC-Payment.pdf>

A manuscript has also been submitted on nurse sensitive value purchasing. Kavanagh KT, Cimiotti JP and Abusalem, S. Nurse Sensitive Value Purchasing. Submitted to Policy Politics & Nursing Practice. June 19, 2011. <http://www.healthwatchusa.org/references/20110803-Kavanagh-NSVP-PPNP.pdf>

Dr Kavanagh has testified regarding healthcare transparency and public reporting before Committees of the Kentucky Legislature four times in the last year. <http://www.healthwatchusa.org/HWUSA-Presentations-Testimony/HWUSA-Testimony.htm> He helped write Kentucky House Bill 291, the most recent legislation submitted on this topic.

Dr Kavanagh, is currently Board Chairman and Founder of Health Watch USA (HWUSA), a 501C3 organization, whose mission is to promote healthcare transparency and patient advocacy. Health Watch USA received certification as a “Community Leader” for healthcare transparency by the AHRQ – 8/22/07. In 2010, Health Watch USA became a member of the National Quality Forum. Dr. Kavanagh is also currently an associate professor of Surgery in the Division of Otolaryngology at the University of Kentucky.

Health Watch USA, organizes and hosts a yearly educational conference on healthcare transparency and patient advocacy. Keynote speakers have included former US Surgeon General, Dr. Joycelyn Elders; Dr Marvin Feit, Editor of the Journal of Social Work in Public Health; Dr. Nancy Wilson, Joint Senior Advisor

to AHRQ and to the Office of the Secretary and Dr. Regina Herzlinger, Chair of Harvard Business School and bestselling author of "Who Killed Health Care?".

From 1983 to 1992, Dr. Kavanagh was an associate professor of Otolaryngology at the University of Tennessee, Memphis, and worked as a consultant at St. Jude Children's Research Center. He has published over 35 papers in peer review journals and is a past Software Review and Computer Applications Editor for The Annals of Otolaryngology, Rhinology and Laryngology.

In 1987, he developed a tri-state program funded by Maternal and Child Health for Pediatric Indigent Care Clinics in Tennessee, Arkansas and Mississippi (MCJ-473808). The Grant also produced an early version of electronic medical records and organized yearly multi-state conferences on healthcare for the poor and uninsured.

Dr Kavanagh has served on the Kentucky Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology from 1/11/03 to 2/9/11 and on 10/17/09 to 4/15/2011 he served on the Statewide Citizen Review Panel for Child Protective Services, a Federally mandated oversight panel for the Kentucky Dept. of Community Based Services.

Dr Kavanagh, has a wide range of practice experience serving rural and impoverished populations, ranging from inner city Memphis to the Mississippi Delta to Appalachia. He also has a 15-year old niece who is three years status post cardiac transplant.

Reason for seeking other employment includes a deep interest and experience in healthcare policy and the development of cervical disk disease which has required three operations over an 18-year period of time and can no longer practice surgery.