June 18, 2004

Dear Faculty,

In an attempt to improve the quality of both the education of our residents in continuity clinics and the quality of patient care services through the use of Advanced Clinic Access, a series of case studies has been created. These case studies, completed in a familiar format, use evidence-based medicine as a framework to elucidate the relationship between understanding and practicing Advanced Clinic Access. The materials also provide a framework for instruction, documenting, and obtaining competency in the Systems Based Practice Core Competency in Internal Medicine residency training. Each case study is designed to be completed in twenty to thirty minutes and requires only a faculty mentor to lead the discussion. Answer guides and references are provided for this series. Introductory materials and supplemental lectures are also available and all can be tailored to your individual institutional requirements. Implementation of Advanced Clinic Access principles within your outpatient clinics is a difficult endeavor; however, through the education of residents, the process can be rewarding as future physicians learn a structured framework for understanding the role they play within the greater health care system.

Sincerely,

Advanced Clinic Access Initiative, National Sub Committee on Academic Environments in conjunction with the Office of Academic Affairs and the Office of the VA Deputy Undersecretary of Health for Operations and Management
Contacts (for further information; e-mail links provided):

- **Jeffrey Murawsky, MD** (Program Director, Internal Medicine, Hines VA)
- **Joseph Leung, MD** (Section Chief, General Internal Medicine, Manhattan VA)
- **Luz Vasquez, MD** (Physician, West Haven VA)
- **Dan Castro, MD** (Section Chief, General Internal Medicine, Loma Linda VA)
- **Janet Murphy** (Director, Primary Care and Subspecialty Care Service Line, VISN 23)
- **Sue Lester, RN** (Team Leader, Omaha VA)
- **Judith Feldman, MD MPH** (Chief Medical Officer, VISN 3)
- **Barbara K. Chang, MD MA** (Director of Program Evaluation, Office of Academic Affiliations, VA Central Office)