

To: NHAFP

RE: Family Physician of the Year Nominee – Gerard Hevern MD

Dr. Hevern started a family medicine practice from scratch in the then underserved community of Suncook in 1979. Since that time he has dedicated his life to promoting the health of individuals in this community. The practice in Suncook has become a sustaining institution in Suncook. He is passionate about family medicine and devotes himself to caring for his patients. He consistently advocates for the underserved patients in this low income community.

I have practiced with Jerry since 1989 and cannot begin to count the instances when he has taken the extra time to overcome some administrative obstacle or managed care policy when the health of the patient is at stake. He is dedicated to listening to his patients and providing the comprehensive kind of care that family medicine stands for. His patients are extremely devoted to him because of these efforts that he puts forth. He always puts the interests of his patients first.

Drug and alcohol abuse have recently become hot button issues in NH. Jerry has been a leader in this field for decades. Starting in the 1980's he was the director of the chemical dependency treatment unit at CMC. He has maintained an active role in this area even after the closing of CMC's unit in the late 90's.

For the last several years Dr. Hevern has taken on the additional responsibility of directing the Pain Center at Elliot Hospital. He sought out specialty training in Pain Medicine and Addiction Medicine earning a certificate of added qualification in this field. In this role he dedicates himself to managing the most challenging and neglected group of patients in the region. He fills this role selflessly and enthusiastically and has become a regional expert in the management of these most challenging and problematic patients.

In the many years of working side by side with Dr. Hevern I have come to see him as the embodiment of a caring and effective family doctor. I enthusiastically and completely endorse his nomination for the NHAFP Family Physician of the year.

Sincerely,

Alan M Stein MD FAAFP