

Verena Samara

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@gmail.com

To whom it may concern,

I am interested in being a physician council member for The Department of Health and Human Services Rare Disease Advisory Council. I am a board certified neurologist with additional board certifications in neuromuscular medicine and electrodiagnostic medicine. I am currently employed by Carson Tahoe Medical Group and am also a clinical assistant professor at the University of Nevada, Reno in the Department of Neurology.

As a neuromuscular specialist, I am taking care of patients with rare neurological diseases on a regular basis, including autoimmune and hereditary neuropathies, motor neuron disease, myasthenia gravis etc. Through motor neuron disease clinics during training I am familiar with working with representative from associations advocating for these rare conditions and am also familiar with the challenges posed regarding developing treatment options and then convincing insurance companies to cover these treatments.

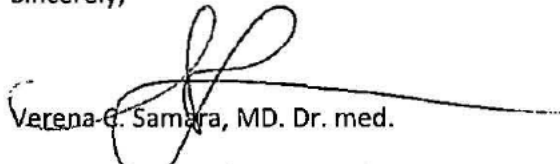
During my time training as a neuromuscular fellow at Stanford I was also exposed to the Undiagnosed Diseases Network/Center and have been able to help diagnose several patients and their families with rare diseases.

I have recently joined the NV Newborn Screening Advisory Committee and will be helping take care of newborns diagnosed with Spinal Muscular Atrophy in Northern Nevada, which is a rare congenital muscle disorder.

Neuromuscular medicine is my passion. A recent NIH publication cites almost 90% of neuromuscular conditions being classified as rare diseases. I am striving to be an advocate for the individual patient with neuromuscular conditions on a daily basis. Being part of the Rare Disease Advisory Council would allow be to advocate for my patients on a higher level.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,


Verena G. Samara, MD. Dr. med.

Carson Tahoe Medical Group/UNR

[REDACTED]@gmail.com

[REDACTED]