



Physicians Caring for Texans

July 29, 2021

Gene Dodaro, Comptroller General  
U.S. Government Accountability Office  
Attn: HITAC Nominations  
4410 G. Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20548

*Sent via email to: [HITCommittee@gao.gov](mailto:HITCommittee@gao.gov)*

Dear Comptroller General Dodaro:

On behalf of our more than 55,000 Texas physician and medical student members, the Texas Medical Association (TMA) writes to nominate Ogechika Alozie, MD, MPH, to serve on the Health Information Technology Advisory Committee (HITAC) as [solicited](#) by the Government Accountability Office in the July 19, 2021, *Federal Register*.

Dr. Alozie received his medical degree from the University of Benin in Benin City, Nigeria. He completed his residency at the Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis, Minn. He is a graduate of the University of Minnesota's Infectious Disease Fellowship Program. Dr. Alozie received an introduction to digital health during his residency by working on the Epic electronic health record planning and implementation. He became board certified in health informatics in 2018. Dr. Alozie currently practices in El Paso, Texas, and is CEO of Southwest Viral Med, a nonprofit organization that organizes and manages the treatment of patients living with the human immunodeficiency virus and the hepatitis C virus.

Dr. Alozie's holds several leadership roles within TMA and in Texas. He is chair of TMA's Health Information Technology Committee of which he's been a member since 2016. He also serves on TMA's COVID-19 Task Force. He is past chair of the eHealth Advisory Committee for the state of Texas. He is a past board member of the Paso del Norte Health Information Exchange in El Paso. He is the former chief health informatics officer at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso.

Dr. Alozie's extensive experience in population and digital health makes him a strong advocate for patients and how to best use technology to make their care more efficient and effective. TMA believes he would make an invaluable contribution as a member of the HITAC. We appreciate the opportunity to make this nomination. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Shannon Vogel, TMA associate vice president of health information technology, at [shannon.vogel@texmed.org](mailto:shannon.vogel@texmed.org).

Sincerely,

E. Linda Villarreal, MD  
President  
Texas Medical Association