



DR. CLIFTON R. GAUS, Sc.D.
Bradenton, Florida
Clif@clifgaus.com
805-907-1010

Clif has a diverse background as a public servant, entrepreneur and health executive. He served in senior health positions under Presidents Nixon, Ford, Carter, and Clinton. In the 1970's and 80's, as Associate Administrator of HCFA (now CMS), he directed the development of a broad range of innovations in health care financing and delivery, including the DRG hospital payment system, RBRVS physician payment system, Medicare Hospice Programs and Medicare payment of Physician Assistants.

From 1994 to 1997 he was the Administrator of the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (now AHRQ). Major accomplishments were developing the CAHPS Patient Survey now used throughout the healthcare system, Guidelines.gov, and Evidence-Based Practice Centers.

In the late 90's he held the position of Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer of WellPoint Health Networks Inc., managing a staff of over 3000 employees responsible for all of WellPoint's physician and hospital networks, medical policy, public affairs, human resources, market research and product branding. In advance of today's value based payment models, he led a company-wide redesign of the physician network contracting focused on incentives to the medical groups for improved quality and outcomes. Prior to WellPoint, he was Senior Vice President of the national Kaiser Permanente Health System in Oakland, California. From 2002-10 he served on the Board of Directors of the Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, Stanford University.

Clif is currently President and CEO of the National Association of ACOs (www.naacos.com) which he co-founded in 2012. NAACOS is the only national organization owned and managed by ACOs. It advocates for ACOs on policy and offers shared learning experiences through conferences, webinars, forums and work groups. He also founded other organizations, including the Georgetown University Health Policy Center, and the Association for Health Services Research (now Academy Health) in the early 1980's.

He holds a master's degree in health administration (MHA) from the University of Michigan and a Doctorate of Science (Sc.D.) in health care management from The Johns Hopkins University.