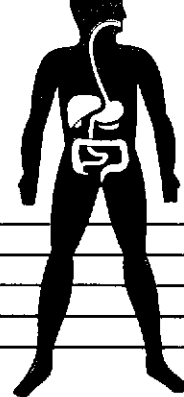


Digestive Disease National Coalition



507 Capitol Court, N.E., Suite 200, Washington, D.C. 20002
(202) 544-7497 (202) 546-7105 - Fax WWW.DDNC.ORG

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman
NANCY NORTON

President
MAURICE CERULLI, MD

Vice-Chairman
PETER BANKS, MD

Secretary
CYNTHIA KUPPER, RD, CD

Treasurer
JANE ALLAIRE, RN, CGRN

Members-at-Large
CARLA H. GINSBURG, MD
THELMA KING THIEL
JAMES DEGEROME, MD
DAN C. TYRRELL

August 18, 2003

Mr. Robert Brubaker
Director
Metroped Inc.
P.O. Box 15077
Alexandria, VA 22309-0077

Dear Mr. Brubaker:

The leadership of the Digestive Disease National Coalition (DDNC), would like to take the opportunity to thank Metroped for its commitment and leadership in the area of public facility access for digestive disease sufferers. We would like to register the DDNC's enthusiastic endorsement of Metroped's Public Restroom Initiative.

As you know, the DDNC is an advocacy organization comprised of 25 voluntary and professional societies concerned with the many diseases of the digestive tract, such as irritable bowel syndrome, inflammatory bowel disease and bowel incontinence and ostomy issues. Since its founding in 1978, the Coalition has worked to increase public awareness and federal funding for debilitating digestive illnesses.

The DDNC would like to work with Metroped to bring this initiative to a successful conclusion so that digestive disease sufferers have the access to public restrooms that they need. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Dale Dirks and Mr. James Romano at (202) 544-7497, the DDNC national office. Thank you again for taking the leadership on this pressing initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maurice A. Cerulli". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Maurice A. Cerulli, MD
President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy J. Norton". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Nancy J. Norton
Chairperson

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS

AstraZeneca LP
Centocor, Inc.
GlaxoSmithKline
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corp.
Olympus America, Inc.
Salix Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Schering-Plough Corp.
TAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

ADMINISTRATION

Health & Medicine Counsel of
Washington
DALE P. DIRKS
Founder & President Emeritus
Suzanne Rosenthal