Division of Dockets Management (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane
Room 1061
Rockville, Maryland 20852

May 11, 2017

Re: Docket No. FDA-2017-N-0455, Enhancing Patient Engagement Efforts Across the Food and Drug Administration; Establishment of a Public Docket; Request for Comments

To Whom It May Concern,

The Alzheimer’s Association appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Food and Drug Administration’s (FDA) proposed Office of Patient Affairs. We support FDA’s efforts to engage with patients, caregivers, and advocates, and believe such engagement can lead to better therapies that are meaningful to patients. As it develops the new office, however, we request that FDA ensure that the Alzheimer’s Association and other advocacy groups are able to maintain ongoing relationships with existing offices and centers. It is critically important to the development of and access to new treatments that patient advocacy groups maintain regular and direct contact with offices and centers with disease-specific expertise like Alzheimer’s and other dementias.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. The Alzheimer’s Association is glad to serve as a resource to FDA as it considers these important issues and how they relate to individuals living with Alzheimer’s and related dementias. Please contact Laura Thornhill, Manager of Regulatory Affairs, at 202-638-7042 or lthornhill@alz.org if you have questions or if we can be of additional assistance.

Sincerely,

Robert Egge
Executive Vice President, Government Affairs