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Michael J. O'Grady is a senior fellow at NORC (National Opinion Research Center) at the University of Chicago and a principal at O'Grady Health Policy LLC, a private health-consulting firm.

His work concentrates on health policy research and analysis for public and private organizations. His current research is concentrated on the interaction between scientific development and health economics, with a particular concentration on diabetes and obesity. This includes serving as the principal investigator on the economics team of the clinical trial evaluating the introduction of the continuous glucose monitor for the treatment of diabetes.



O'Grady served as chair of the National Academies of Sciences/Institute of Medicine Panel measuring medical care risk in conjunction with the new supplemental income poverty measure and is currently a member of the National Academy of Sciences Policy Roundtable of the Behavioral and Social Sciences. He also provides strategic consulting and analysis for a range of organizations. This includes the development of new modeling and methods for improving the federal budget process by introducing the latest disease-based epidemiological modeling into budget estimates for interventions for chronic illness, particularly diabetes and obesity.

In 2003, O'Grady was confirmed by the U.S. Senate as the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation at the Department of Health and Human Services, where he directed both the policy development and policy research across the full array of issues confronting the department. As assistant secretary from 2003 to 2005, he increased the quality and rigor of research and analysis, providing rapid and critical analyses of legislative and regulatory proposals.

O'Grady has served as the senior health economist on the majority staff of Congress' Joint Economic Committee. For several years, O'Grady was a senior health adviser to the chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. In this position, he designed the Senate versions of key provisions of the Balanced Budget Refinement Act of 1999 and the Beneficiary Improvement and Protection Act of 2000. O'Grady also held senior staff positions with the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission and the Congressional Research Service at the Library of Congress, where he did extensive research and policy development.

O'Grady received his doctorate in political science from the University of Rochester.