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James J. Mongan, M.D., was elected to be a member of The Commonwealth Fund Board of Directors in April 2006. The president and CEO of Partners HealthCare System in Boston and a professor of both health care policy and social medicine at Harvard Medical School, he has a long and distinguished career in health care policy, management, and education.

During his career, Dr. Mongan has served as president of Massachusetts General Hospital, the largest and oldest teaching affiliate of Harvard Medical School, as executive director of the Truman Medical Center in Kansas City, Mo., and as dean of the University of Missouri–Kansas City School of Medicine. Prior to that, he spent 11 years in Washington, D.C., serving for seven years as a staff member of the U.S. Senate Committee on Finance, for which he worked on Medicare and Medicaid legislation. During the Carter administration, he was deputy assistant secretary for health and then associate director of the domestic policy staff at the White House.

Dr. Mongan, a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, chairs the Commonwealth Fund Commission on a High Performance Health System. He is a member of the board of directors of the Eastern Massachusetts Urban League and has served on the board of trustees of the American Hospital Association and on the Prospective Payment Assessment Commission of the U.S. Congress. He has also served as chairman of the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce.

A native of San Francisco, Dr. Mongan received his undergraduate education at the University of California, Berkeley, and Stanford University, and his medical degree from Stanford University Medical School. He completed his medical internship at Kaiser Foundation Hospital in San Francisco and served two years in the public health service.

Upon naming him to the Fund's Board, Chairman Samuel O. Thier, M.D., said of Dr. Mongan: "His intimate knowledge of health care delivery gives him a clear understanding of the challenges and opportunities we face as we seek to achieve a high performance health care system."

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