

# COVID-19: A physician guide to keeping your practice open

## Physician Practice Guide for Keeping Your Practice Open



As physicians strive to continue to provide care to patients and maintain their practices during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the AMA is providing an updated Physician Practice Guide for Keeping Your Practice Open (PDF).

The guide is intended to help physicians continue to effectively address these impacts, with a focus on workforce and patients' evolving health needs. Download the complete guide for best practices, including a detailed pre-visit screening script and frequently asked questions around privacy and confidentiality concerns.

For more information on details about remote work, please view the AMA's [Guide to Implementing a Work-From-Home Program](#) (PDF).

## What the guide covers

Burnout among health care professionals due to the prolonged COVID-19 pandemic has reached crisis proportions. This burnout is caused by the stresses of long hours, uncertainties of the pandemic and severe staff shortages. The updated guide provides:

- Strategies to address workforce shortages
- New COVID-19 protocols to ensure patient and staff safety
- Tips and tactics to reduce burnout
- Guidelines for virtual and in-person visits
- Updates on COVID-19 testing options and recommendations

Find additional resources from the AMA on private practice sustainability: business operations and workflow.

## Navigating the Current Healthcare Landscape: COVID-19, Staffing Crisis, and Administrative Burden

### AMA resources to address burnout

## Considerations for patients

The updated guide contains considerations physicians and organizations should review surrounding patient care during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

- Implement policies and procedures: Patient vaccination
- Institute safety measures for patients
- Prior to scheduled, in-person patient visits
- Testing for COVID-19

## Other ongoing steps

Other important areas physicians and organizations should review include:

- Review coverage with your medical liability insurance carrier
- Protect confidentiality/privacy
- Comply with governmental guidance

The AMA continues to monitor the pandemic and will continue to add resources to assist physicians.

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