AMA in the News: July 2021

AMA in the News covers media coverage and mentions about the American Medical Association. Find articles recognizing our efforts in health care, advocacy, medical education and improvements in public health. Read coverage on the achievements of our leadership and the members of the AMA community.

Biden seeks to revive vaccine effort with new rules and incentives
*The New York Times*, July 29, 2021

In a joint statement this week, dozens of medical groups, including the American Medical Association and the American Academy of Pediatrics, called for all health care and long-term care workers to be vaccinated. The Department of Veterans Affairs became the first federal agency to require many of its employees to get a shot. (Publication subscription is required for full or unlimited access.)

AMA, other medical groups call for vaccine mandate
*WebMD*, July 27, 2021

As COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths mount again across the country, the American Medical Association, the American Nursing Association and 54 other medical and allied health care groups released a joint statement this week calling on “all health care and long-term care employers” to require their workers to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

Medical groups call for mandatory vaccination of U.S. health care workers.
*The New York Times*, July 26, 2021

“We know the vaccines are safe and highly effective at preventing severe illness and death from COVID-19,” Susan R. Bailey, MD, the immediate past president of the AMA,
said in the statement. The joint statement noted that the COVID-19 vaccines have a good track record so far. (Publication subscription is required for full or unlimited access.)

**Dozens of medical groups push vaccine mandate for health workers**

*Bloomberg, July 26, 2021*

Susan R. Bailey, MD, immediate past president of the American Medical Association, said in a statement that it’s “critical that all people in the health care workforce get vaccinated against COVID-19 for the safety of our patients and our colleagues.”

“With more than 300 million doses administered in the United States and nearly 4 billion doses administered worldwide, we know the vaccines are safe and highly effective at preventing severe illness and death from COVID-19,” Bailey said. (Publication subscription is required for full or unlimited access.)

**VA requires COVID-19 vaccination for health care workers**

*Associated Press, July 26, 2021*

“With more than 300 million doses administered in the United States and nearly 4 billion doses administered worldwide, we know the vaccines are safe and highly effective at preventing severe illness and death from COVID-19,” Susan Bailey, MD, immediate past president of the American Medical Association, said in a statement.

**California, NYC to workers: Get vaccine or face weekly tests**

*NewsNation Now, July 26, 2021*

“Unfortunately, it’s come to the point in time where we’re having to discuss mandating the vaccine because we still don’t have enough people vaccinated to prevent the spread of these new variants,” said Susan Bailey, MD, former president of the American Medical Association. (Video interview with Dr. Bailey included.)

**AMA, 56 other groups back mandatory COVID vax for healthcare workers**
Medical groups’ calls for COVID-19 vaccination mandates for healthcare workers reached a fever pitch on Monday, with the American Medical Association (AMA), American Nurses Association and 55 other organizations joining the chorus supporting mandatory vaccination. (Free registration is required to view content.)

**Major medical groups call for mandatory vaccines for all healthcare workers**

*Newsweek, July 26, 2021*

American Academy of Pediatrics, American Medical Association, American Nursing Association, American Psychiatric Association and 53 other medical associations released a joint statement urging hospitals to require employees to get vaccinated. (Publication subscription is required for full or unlimited access.)

**‘A tipping point’: Government officials, health groups move to require coronavirus vaccines for workers**

*The Washington Post, July 26, 2021*

“We have reached a confluence where health-care workers want vaccine mandates, and government is responding,” said Ezekiel Emanuel, a bioethicist at the University of Pennsylvania who organized the joint statement from nearly 60 medical groups, including the American Medical Association and the American Nurses Association, urging every health facility to require workers to get vaccinated.

**Narrow CDC opioid guidance said to feed prescription ‘fallacy’**

*Bloomberg Law, July 22, 2021*

Physicians have reduced their prescriptions by more than 44% since 2012, but “the drug overdose epidemic has gotten worse,” AMA Board of Trustees Chairman Bobby Mukkamala, MD, wrote in a letter to advisers of the CDC’s Injury Center. (Publication subscription is required for full or unlimited access.)
SC communities to receive part of $26 billion opioid settlement tied to epidemic
*The Post and Courier*, July 22, 2021

In a separate announcement, the American Medical Association urged advisers to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in a letter dated July 16 to overhaul the CDC’s current guidelines on opioid prescriptions.

More hospitals are requiring workers to get COVID vaccines

While more than 96 percent of doctors say they are fully vaccinated, according to the American Medical Association, health care workers, particularly in rural areas, have proven more resistant even though thousands of workers have died from the virus and countless more became sick. (Publication subscription is required for full or unlimited access.)

LGBTQ people across the U.S. face many disparities in health care.
A new fellowship aims to bridge those gaps
*TIME Magazine*, July 20, 2021

The American Medical Association Foundation announced on Tuesday that the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s School of Public Health and Medicine will be the first institution to participate in its new National LGBTQ+ Fellowship Program, which aims to combat shortcomings in the medical care provided to LGBTQ people in the United States. (Publication subscription is required for full or unlimited access.)

Dr. Bobby Mukkamala - Can Flint become America's most mindful city?
*The Middle Way Podcast*, July 5, 2021

Podcast interview with AMA Board Chair Bobby Mukkamala, MD.