INTRODUCTION
The AMA’s mission is to promote the art and science of medicine and the betterment of public health. As the physician organization whose reach and depth extend across all physicians, as well as policymakers, medical schools, and health care leaders, the AMA uniquely can deliver results and initiatives that enable physicians to improve the health of the nation.

Representing physicians with a unified voice
If the last few years have taught us anything it is that threats to the practice of medicine can come unexpectedly and from many fronts. In 2023 the AMA vigorously defended physicians and medicine in state and federal courts on a variety of issues threatening physicians and their patients. The AMA, in partnership with state medical associations and national medical specialty societies, won more than 100 state-level scope of practice cases.

Through research, advocacy and education, the AMA continued to defend the practice of medicine against scope of practice expansions that threaten patient safety. We promoted physician-led care and helped defeat legislation across the country that would have allowed:

- Physician assistants to practice independently without physician oversight
- Pharmacists to prescribe medications
- Optometrists to perform surgery
- Scope of practice expansion for nurse practitioners and other APRNs

The AMA facilitated 226,000+ contacts to Congress from patients and physicians as part of our FixMedicareNow.org grassroots campaign. To ensure more transparency in health care, the AMA worked with multiple state medical associations to introduce new or strengthen existing “Truth in Advertising” laws so that patients know if the person providing care to them is a physician—or not. Georgia and North Dakota enacted laws in 2023.

AMA’s critical voice was represented in federal and state courts around the country on a broad range of issues, including in several cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. The AMA filed amicus briefs in: Braidwood Management v. Becerra, Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine v. FDA, and Murthy v. Missouri. Working with state and federal policymakers, the AMA continued to oppose legislation and laws that interfere with the practice of medicine, including in cases where physicians face criminal, civil, or administrative penalties for providing necessary care. In cases
ranging from surprise billing, to firearm regulations to scope of practice, the AMA has aggressively fought back to protect physicians.

The AMA elevated the voice of physician leadership on critical issues of public health, securing more than 100 press releases, 125 billion media impressions representing nearly $1.2 billion in estimated ad value, achieving a commanding voice among healthcare entities in the media.

Removing obstacles that interfere with patient care

Physician burnout remains an ongoing epidemic in the U.S. and the AMA is fiercely committed to understanding the challenges physicians face and to restoring their well-being and optimism. We know that reducing burnout and promoting physician well-being are inextricably linked to the delivery of high-quality patient care and health system sustainability.

The AMA pushed forward in tackling the causes of burnout and in developing effective research and resources needed to help physicians achieve improved satisfaction and joy in their work. AMA published more than 25 peer-reviewed studies and over 2,000,000 users accessed the AMA STEPS Forward® program to prevent burnout and improve patient care and practice efficiency. AMA provided over 100 new or updated AMA STEPS Forward® resources – including toolkits, webinars, podcast episodes, and the new Wellness-Centered Leadership Playbook. AMA co-sponsored the 2023 American Conference on Physician Health with Stanford Medicine and Mayo Clinic in Palm Desert, California for over 600 attendees.

The AMA continued to expand its work in promoting physician wellness through its Joy in Medicine™ Health System Recognition Program. This program is committed to advancing the science of physician burnout and recognizes those systems that are dedicated to organizational well-being. In 2023 the AMA recognized 72 health systems – bringing the total number of recognized organizations to 96.

In 2023 the AMA worked with state medical associations across the country to enact prior authorization reform using AMA model legislation, data, testimony, and other resources that resulted in more than 30 states introducing legislation - and at least nine new states enacting prior authorization laws including AK, DC, IN, LA, MT, ND, NJ, RI, TN, and WA.

The AMA successfully piloted VeriCre, a cross-industry collaboration to improve the complex credentialing process for physicians, healthcare institutions, and health plans alike. VeriCre addresses inefficiencies in credentialing by providing centralized, trusted, and authoritative data that can be used to pre-populate applications. VeriCre is designed to be integrated into vendor software solutions within healthcare organizations.

The AMA worked to remove the barriers and end the stigma that all too frequently deters physicians from getting the mental health care they need. Our work with 15 state medical boards, health systems and credentialing bodies resulted in the removal of stigmatizing questions about mental illness from their applications.

Driving the future of medicine

The AMA achieved passage of legislation to extend Medicare telehealth coverage through 2024. The 2024 Medicare payment rule preserves key telehealth policies, ensuring Medicare patients from all areas of the country (not only rural) will continue to receive access to telehealth.
The AMA advanced a conceptual model for precision medical education: a system that can leverage technology and data to improve education personalization and learning efficiency across the continuum, in support of students, residents, fellows, physicians, and ultimately the needs of patients. Innovation Grants were awarded to 13 sites applying precision education approaches in medical school, residency and continuing professional development.

The AMA ChangeMedEd® initiative and the University of Michigan developed a seven-part online learning module series introducing learners to foundational principles in artificial intelligence and machine-learning. The first of the series, Introduction to Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Health Care, launched on October 31 and was highlighted in a plenary session at the Association of American Medical Colleges Learn Serve Lead annual conference, spurring over 1600 page views and 65 course completions within the month of November alone.

AMA’s influence continues through the Health Systems Science Scholars Program and the Coaching Implementation Workshop, with each program now having trained over 200 faculty members from across the US to advance these innovations in medical schools and residency programs.

AMA Ed Hub™ continued to expand its educational offering by signing on 14 new partners in 2023 - bringing the total number of partners to 50. The new partners include: American Association for Physician Leadership; American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine; American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians; American Thoracic Surgery; Boston University; Docs with Disabilities; Endocrine Society; Mary Ann Liebert Publishers; Michigan State University; Parkinson’s Foundation; Society of Critical Care Medicine; Radiology Health Equity Coalition; University of California, San Francisco, and Altarum Institute - National Coalition for Sexual Health.

AMA Ed Hub™, in collaboration with Advocacy and Health Science & Ethics, rapidly delivered an educational offering to help physicians and clinicians meet new DEA requirements on substance use disorders and addiction. Including education from the AMA and their partners, this offering was deployed within 24 hours of the new regulation issuance and significantly contributed to increased AMA Ed Hub™ engagement.

To better meet the needs of academic researchers, JAMA® optimized the publication pathway by promising to move accepted manuscripts to publication within four weeks of submission for select manuscripts of high importance. JAMA® also launched a new video and podcast series on “AI and Clinical Practice” to keep physicians informed on AI’s promise to transform treatment, training, research and publishing. JAMA® hosted its first JAMA Summit™ that brought together 60 experts from across the country and world to talk about why there is a big gap between the generation of evidence and what physicians do in clinical practice including what could we do to make it better.

The AMA’s Center for Health Equity continues to strengthen physician and health system understanding and engagement around advancing equity. We launched the National Health Equity Grand Rounds, engaging almost 11,000 viewers around a variety of important topics and strategies to advance health equity and published 43 social justice education modules in the AMA Ed Hub™.

Leading the charge to confront public health crises

The AMA successfully advocated to make naloxone available over the counter and continued to advocate for responsible pricing and insurance coverage for this life-saving medication. We also successfully advocated for revisions to the Center for Disease Control’s (CDC) opioid prescribing
guidelines that resulted in the CDC removing its dose and quantity thresholds for treating patients with pain.

The AMA collaborated with three partners to increase access to AMA MAP™ metrics to improve the quality-of-care physicians provide to their patients with hypertension. Access to the metrics helps identify gaps, track progress, and support quality improvement efforts to reach approximately 5.5 million additional patients across 683 organizations inclusive of health systems, Federally Qualified Health Centers, community health centers and medical groups.

To help close a gap in blood pressure measurement training that exists within medical schools, the AMA awarded financial grants to eight academic institutions representing 18 total training programs for healthcare professionals allowing them to meaningfully engage in AMA’s eLearning series, BP Measurement Essential: Student Edition.

The AMA’s Enterprise Social Responsibility (ESR) program has strategically integrated and aligned to the health equity strategic framework with the goal to reduce health inequities in partnership with communities. The ESR program hosted over 30 events, supported nearly 70 organizations, and donated almost $100,000 to community partners. AMA employees, representing every business unit and office location, achieved 32 percent employee volunteer participation, far exceeding the industry average of 20 percent, to build healthy, thriving, equitable communities.

**AMA Task Forces**

The task force to Preserve the Patient-Physician Relationship was formed and has convened. The Board will submit an Informational Report at the 2024 Interim Meeting that will summarize the activities of this task force that have taken place to date.

The TRHT (Truth, Racial Healing, Transformation) task force was formed and has convened. The TRHT task force is on track to submit its recommendations to the AMA Board of Trustees by June 2025.

The Firearm Injury Prevention task force is convening and updates on its work are summarized in Board of Trustees Report 22-A-24.

The Substance Use and Pain Care task force is convening and updates on its work are summarized in Board of Trustees Report 22-A-24.

The Cannabis task force is convening and its work is focused on developing evidence-based education for physicians.

**Membership**

Overall, the organization’s advocacy efforts and mission activities were supported by another strong year of financial performance. In 2023 the AMA experienced a 3.4% increase in overall dues-paying membership.

**EVP Compensation**

During 2023, pursuant to his employment agreement, total cash compensation paid to James L. Madara, MD, as AMA Executive Vice President was $1,346,453 in salary and $1,117,107 in incentive compensation, reduced by $2,680 in pre-tax deductions. Other taxable amounts per the
contract are as follows: $23,484 imputed costs for life insurance, $24,720 imputed costs for executive life insurance, and $4,000 paid for an executive physical, and $3,000 paid for parking and other. An $81,000 contribution to a deferred compensation account was also made by the AMA. This will not be taxable until vested and paid pursuant to provisions in the deferred compensation agreement.

For additional information about AMA activities and accomplishments, please see the “AMA 2023 Annual Report.”