

MAKING PROGRESS

The AMA Recovery Plan for America's Physicians




The American Medical Association achieved significant wins related to the five critical areas we are addressing with the AMA Recovery Plan for America's Physicians.

We've stopped bills that would have expanded the scope of practice for non-physicians, developed resources to fight burnout, continued fighting for Medicare physician payment reform and more. Read below for more details and stay tuned to the AMA as we continue our efforts in 2023 **#FightingforDocs**.

ACHIEVED






**Reforming
Medicare
Payment**





-  Led an advocacy campaign joined by more than 150 other organizations that minimized the 8.5% in Medicare payment cuts originally slated for 2023.
-  Developed a set of principles supported by over 120 other medical societies to guide advocacy for Medicare physician payment reform.
-  Successfully advocated for significant Quality Payment Program relief due to COVID-19.



**Fixing Prior
Authorization**

-  Represented physician interests in a federal regulatory task force charged with streamlining prior authorization via automation.
-  Supported the introduction of the Getting Over Lengthy Delays in Care as Required by Doctors Act of 2022 (GOLD CARD Act), which would exempt physicians meeting a certain approval rate from prior authorization requirements under Medicare Advantage and collaborated with 7 states on introduction of state gold carding legislation.
-  Supported recent passage of reform laws in seven states with resources, model legislation, data and coalition building.

IN PROGRESS

-  Pushing for comprehensive Medicare payment reform to increase payment stability, including annual, positive payment updates tied to practice cost inflation to ensure the financial viability of physician practices.
-  Strongly advocating for finalization of CMS proposed rules that would enhance transparency, improve care access and reduce administrative burdens for prior authorization programs in government health benefit programs (e.g., Medicare Advantage), and create electronic attachment standards for clinical documentation.
-  Galvanizing support for prior authorization reform among physicians and patients via the FixPriorAuth.org website and associated social media campaign.
-  Supporting nearly 20 states in their efforts to enact reform laws in 2023.



Fighting Scope Creep

ACHIEVED

- Achieved more than 35 state-level victories in 2022 in partnership with state medical associations and national medical specialty societies.
- Helped defeat legislation across the country that would have allowed physician assistants to practice independently without physician oversight, pharmacists to prescribe medications, and optometrists to perform surgery.
- Stopped bills that would have expanded the scope of practice for nurse practitioners and other APRNs.

IN PROGRESS

- Partnering with leaders to fiercely advocate for the Department of Veterans Affairs to reject inappropriate scope of practice expansions outlined in its Federal Supremacy Project.
- Advocating for physician-led teams and opposing inappropriate scope expansions in the states and DC.
- Opposing the Improving Care and Access to Nurses Act, which would expand the scope of practice for non-physician practitioners in the Medicare and Medicaid programs.



Reducing Burnout

- Successfully fought for enactment of the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act, providing essential physician wellness resources.
- Advocated for states to pass confidentiality protections for physicians seeking help for mental health and wellness.
- Advocated for new laws in Arizona, Delaware and Mississippi that protect physicians who seek care from punitive actions.
- Helped build coalitions to remove stigmatizing questions about mental illness and substance use disorders on licensure applications.
- Expanded resources to help physicians and health system leadership understand physician burnout and how to address it.
- Advanced a strategic roadmap to support organizations in their journey to improve professional satisfaction and organizational well-being.
- Built a well-being assessment tool, to support organizations in holistically measuring and taking action to improve the well-being of their organization.

- Continuing to drive legislative changes to support medical societies to develop physician health and wellness programs that provide confidentiality protections to those seeking care.
- Advocating to state medical boards to remove stigmatizing questions on new and renewal licensing applications about "past diagnosis" of mental illness and focus on whether there is a "current impairment."
- Working directly with health systems to audit, revise and help communicate questions on credentialing exams to support medical students, residents and physicians' efforts to seek care for health and wellness.
- Supporting state physician health programs to provide confidential care to help physicians at risk of potential impairment who may come forward voluntarily or when referred by a colleague, workplace, or the licensing board.
- Recognized health systems for their commitment to organizational well-being through the Joy in Medicine™ program.



Supporting Telehealth

- Achieved passage of legislation to extend Medicare telehealth coverage through 2024.
- Launched an updated model bill to help states advance telehealth legislation and policy.
- Published the Future of Health Report and through the Future of Health Immersion Program provided curated webinars, interactive peer-to-peer sessions, virtual discussions and a library of resources to advance evidence-based telehealth.

- Fighting for passage of legislation that would permanently eliminate current Medicare restrictions limiting telehealth services.
- Supporting state legislation that advances high-quality telehealth.



We accomplished so much together and we'll continue #FightingForDocs. For more information, please visit ama-assn.org/recovery