The AMA Recovery Plan for America’s Physicians

The American Medical Association has achieved several wins this year related to the five critical areas we are addressing with the AMA Recovery Plan for America’s Physicians.

Progress made includes halting a nearly 10% cut in Medicare payments, stopping bills that would have expanded the scope of practice for non-physicians, developing resources to fight burnout and more. Read below for more details and stay tuned to the AMA as we enter 2023 #FightingforDocs.

**MAKING PROGRESS**

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**Reforming Medicare Payment**

- Halted a nearly 10% cut in Medicare payment that had been set to take effect in 2022.
- 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 in 2020 due to COVID-19.
- Backed introduction of the Supporting Medicare Providers Act of 2022, to stop 4.5% in negative budget neutrality adjustments for 2023 and recommended that Congress and the Department of Health and Human Services take future actions to reform the payment system.

**Fixing Prior Authorization**

- Achieved House passage of the Improving Seniors’ Timely Access to Care Act in September 2022, which would ease prior authorization burdens under the Medicare Advantage program.
- 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.
- Helped to enact prior authorization reform laws in Michigan, Georgia, and Iowa.
- Supported introduction of broad reform legislation in New Jersey and Washington, D.C. and laid the groundwork for 2023 reform efforts in nearly a dozen more states.

**IN PROGRESS**

- Stopping the next round of Medicare payment cuts set to take effect in 2023.
- Pushing for comprehensive Medicare reform to increase payment stability, including annual, positive payment updates tied to practice cost inflation to ensure the financial viability of physician practices.
- Continuing to build momentum for enactment of the Improving Seniors' Timely Access to Care Act before the end of 2022, which would streamline prior authorization processes in Medicare Advantage plans.
- In tandem, continuing our strong regulatory advocacy for prior authorization reform by urging CMS to exercise the agency's existing authority to protect care access for patients receiving government-regulated health benefits and reduce administrative burdens for physician practices.
- Galvanizing support for prior authorization reform among physicians and patients via the FixPriorAuth.org website and associated social media campaign.
We’ve accomplished so much together in 2022, and we’re just getting started. For more information, please visit ama-assn.org/recovery.