



# Scope of Practice

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# AMA scope of practice advocacy resources

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Scope microsite - **NEW**

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State laws charts – **NP and PA charts updated**

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Data Series Modules (education and training)

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National survey of U.S. voters on patient sentiment on scope of practice **NEW**

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Media Toolkit **NEW**

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Myth Fact Document **NEW**

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Social media graphics **Updated**

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“Education Matters” wheels **Updated**

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One-pager series **NEW**

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Multiple Issue Briefs **New and updated**

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Health workforce mapper

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GEOMAPS (2013, 2018, 2020)

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Model bills (Truth in Advertising, Physician Led Teams)

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Truth in Advertising Survey

# Research



# Research: AMA Resources

- Issue Briefs
  - Access to care
  - APRN Compact
  - Scope Expansions Leads to Increased Utilization of Health Care Resources
  - Summary of Existing Studies
  - Title Change: Nurse Anesthetist
- State Laws Charts
  - Nurse Practitioners (updated)
  - Physician Assistants (updated)

# Key SOP resource: SOP Data Series Modules

- Compendium of information on non-physician providers
- Detailed information on education, training, certification, licensure
- Common claims made by non-physician providers and how to refute them
- State laws charts
- Audiologists
- Midwives
- Naturopaths
- Nurse Anesthetists
- Nurse practitioners
- Optometrists
- Oral/Maxillofacial surgeons
- Physical therapists
- Physician assistants
- Podiatrists
- Psychologists

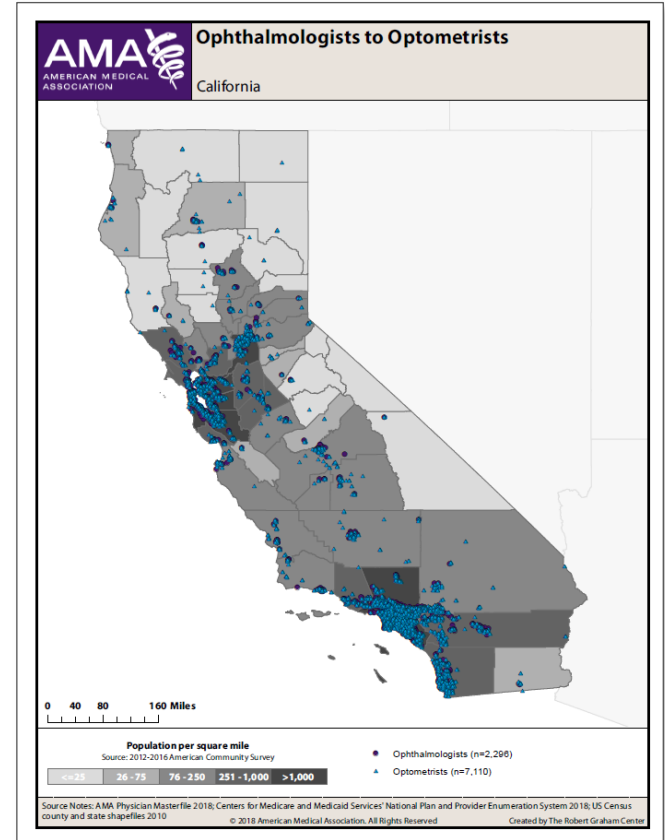
# Education Matters

Medical or health care professional	Length of graduate level education	Years of residency/fellowship training	Total patient care hours
Physician (MD or DO)	4 years	3-7 years	10,000-16,000 hours
Family Physician (MD or DO)	4 years	3 years	10,000-12,000 hours
Anesthesiologist (MD or DO)	4 years	4-6 years	12,000-16,000 hours
Ophthalmologist (MD or DO)	4 years + 1 year internship	3-5 years	12,000-16,000 hours
Psychiatrist (MD or DO)	4 years	4-6 years	12,000-16,000 hours
Nurse Practitioner (NP)	2-4 years (online programs included)	not required	500-720 hours
Physician Assistant (PA) or (PA-C)	2-3 years	not required	2,000 hours
Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA)	2-3 years	not required	2,500 hours; 600 cases
Optometrist (OD)	4 years	not required	1-year clinical rotations
Podiatrist (DPM)	4 years	not required	80 weeks
Psychologist (PsyD) or (PhD)	3 years + 1 year internship	1 year	1-2 years (practicum and internship)
Naturopath (ND)	4 years	not required	720-1,200 hours
Chiropractor (DC)	4 years	not required	320 patients

# Key SOP resource: Geomaps

- Anesthesiologists & Pain Medicine Physicians to CRNA's
- Facial Surgeons & Otolaryngologists to OMS
- Primary Care Physicians (PCPs) to Nurse Practitioners
- OBGYNs & PCPs to Nurse Midwives
- Ophthalmologists to Optometrists
- Orthopaedic Surgeons to Podiatrists
- Otolaryngologists & PCPs to Audiologists
- Physical Medicine Rehabilitation, Sports Medicine Physicians & Orthopaedic Surgeons to PTs
- PCPs to Naturopaths
- Psychiatrists to Psychologists

2013  
2018  
2020



# Key SOP resource: Health Workforce Mapper

- Online tool to map physician and non-physician practice locations
  - comprehensive picture of health workforce
  - identify priority areas for workforce expansion
  - enhance SOP, GME, telemedicine advocacy
- Includes
  - Supplemental health data (hospitals, rural clinics)
  - Geographic data (roads, waterways)
  - CDC data related to population health (morbidity/mortality, demographic data)



[ama-assn.org/healthworkforcemapper](https://ama-assn.org/healthworkforcemapper)

# Legislative Materials



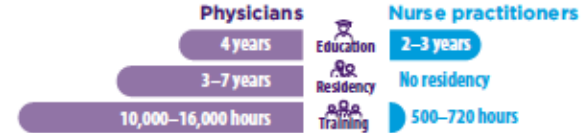
# One-Pagers: Education and Training

- Focus on difference in depth and breadth of education training
- 60% of NP programs are partially or completely online.
- Lack of standardization across programs, especially when it comes to practical experience.
- Many students must find their own preceptor.
- Provide real life examples to illustrate why medical school matters & importance of physician-led teams



## Physicians are trained to lead

With the highest level of education and 20x the clinical training



### Physician education



#### Physician education is ...

**Comprehensive:** Studying all aspects of the human condition—biological, chemical, pharmacological and behavioral—in the classroom, laboratory and through direct patient care

**Hands-on:** Rotating through different specialties during medical school, assisting licensed physicians

**Established and proven:** Developing clinical judgment and medical decision-making skills through direct experience managing patients in all aspects of medicine



#### Physician residency is ...

**Selective and specialized:** Newly graduated physicians match into residency programs for 3–7 years of training in a select surgical or medical specialty

**Reinforcing:** Newly graduated physicians move from direct supervision to progressively increased responsibility in guided preparation for independently practicing medicine

**Accredited:** All residency programs are highly standardized and must be accredited by ACGME, with graded and progressive responsibility at the core of American graduate medical education



#### Physician assessment and certification are ...

**Thorough:** Students must pass a series of exams during and following graduation from medical school, with MDs taking the USMLE and DOs taking the COMLEX

**Validating:** After completing an accredited residency and establishing licensed practice, physicians may obtain board certification in various specialties to further demonstrate their mastery of knowledge in a specific field of medicine

### Nurse practitioner education



#### Nurse practitioner education is ...

**Abbreviated:** NPs can complete a master's (MSN) or doctorate degree (DNP), with the majority completing a master's degree in 2–3 years

**Limited hands-on training:** 60% of NP programs are completely or partially online

**Not standardized:** Unlike physician education and training there is no standardization for obtaining practical experience in patient care



#### Nurse practitioner residency is ...

**Not required** for graduation or licensure



#### Nurse practitioner assessment and certification are ...

**Inconsistent:** NPs must pass a national certifying exam in a specific area of focus (based on the type of program from which the NP graduated) but they are not required to practice in that area—meaning an NP certified in primary care can practice in cardiology, dermatology, neurology, orthopedics, and other specialties without any additional formal education or training

Every health care professional has an important role to play in the high-stakes field of medicine. But these high stakes demand education, experience, acumen, coordination and the robust management of care found only with physician-led teams.

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Physicians' powerful ally in patient care

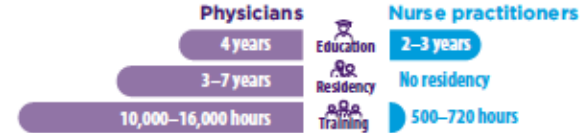
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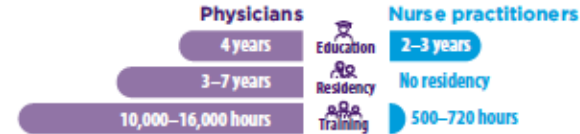
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# Key SOP resource: Education Matters Wheel

- Unique legislator leave-behind comparing education and training of physicians and non-physicians
  - Length of graduate level education
  - Years of residency/fellowship training
  - Total patient care hours required through training.



# Patient Survey Messaging & Media Tools



# Focus Groups and Patient Survey: Key Findings

- Voters have ongoing concerns about the health care system in terms of cost and the care they receive.
- Across audiences, voters expect that physicians will be involved in medical diagnoses, treatment decisions and providing treatment.
- There is strong opposition to the scope of practice changes we tested. Voters responded most viscerally to changes that expanded scope for invasive procedures.
- Voters believe that these changes will most benefit non-physician practitioners and for-profit health entities. They also believe that patients will be harmed if these scope of practice changes are implemented.
- Large majorities of voters think these changes would make our health care system worse.
- One important subgroup note: while younger voters also oppose these changes, they are more receptive to them than older voters and are worth monitoring

# New Resource: Media Toolkit

Series of focus groups and survey of U.S. voters

## Key Message

*Patients are concerned about the cost and quality of health care. While there is certainly room for improvement in our current health care system, allowing non-physicians to provide physician-level care would be a step in the wrong direction that benefits for-profit entities – not patients.*

*The best way to alleviate patient concerns, protect patient safety, and lower costs is to keep physician experts at the head of the health care team.*

## Created Media Toolkit

- Summarize surveys key findings and messaging
- Recommended social media posts
- Social Media How-To Guide
- Model Op-ed
- Myth v. Fact

# Digital Ads




**WORKING TOGETHER**

The best and safest outcomes call for a team approach to care with physicians in the lead.

**#AskForAPhysician**

**AMA**



**91%** say a physician's education and training are vital for optimal care.

**95%** say it's important for a physician to be involved in their diagnosis and treatment.

**3/4** of patients would wait longer to be treated by a physician.

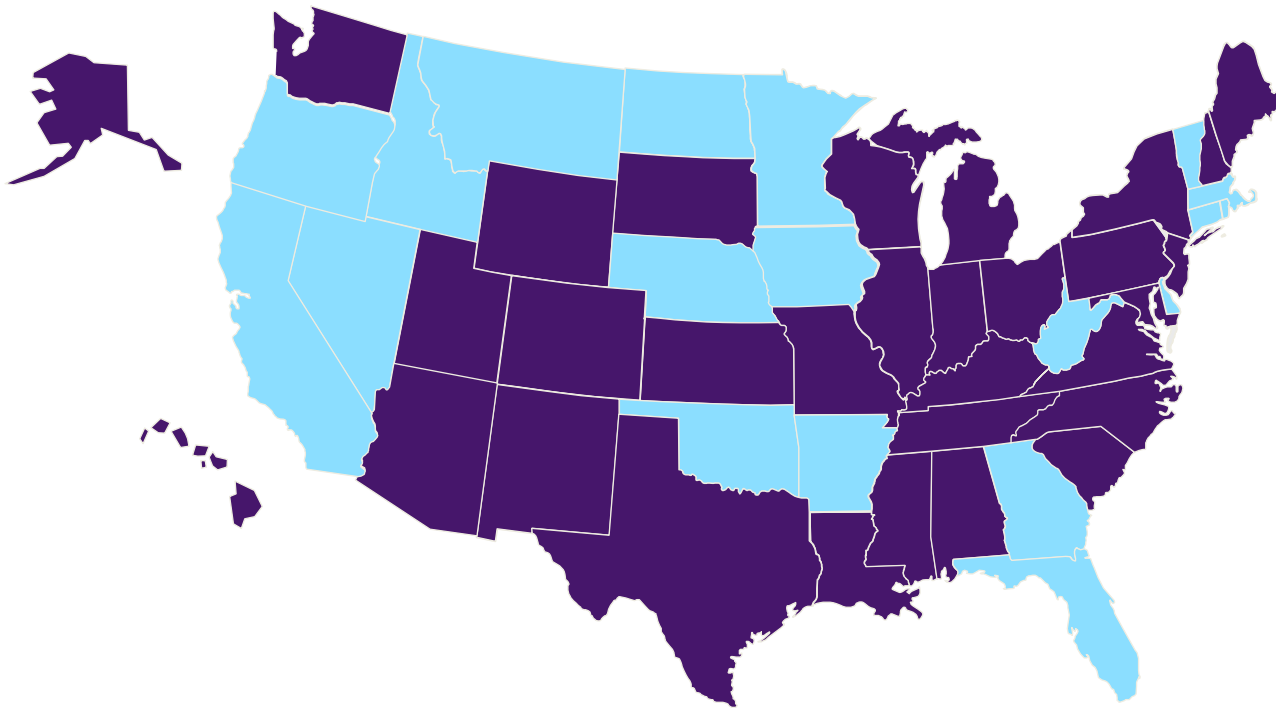
**#AskForAPhysician**

**AMA**

# AMA Advocacy in Action



# In 2022 AMA is working with 30 state medical associations to defeat inappropriate scope expansions



# AMA working with you along the way



Provided state legislative analysis & shared fact-based **resources** supporting physician-led care



Sent letters to governors, legislators, or regulators



**Testified** before legislative or other state committees



**Activated** physicians across the country to reach out to legislators



Used social media to **amplify our message** to key legislators

In strong collaboration with state medical associations and national specialty societies



**Physicians' powerful ally in patient care**