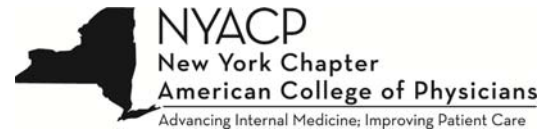


2015 Legislative Priorities



ACCESS TO CARE

- Ensure that efforts to accelerate testing and adoption of innovative integrated care models across all payers include non-institutional settings and provide technical support to physician practices.
- Engage policymakers to assure the viability of independent physician practices.
- Promote growth of the physician workforce through adequate funding of graduate medical education and physician loan forgiveness, scholarships, and expenses for practice start-up and ambulatory care training.
- Support exploration of innovative strategies to address the physician workforce shortage.
- Encourage continuation of Medicaid reimbursement of primary care services at Medicare rates beyond 2015.
- Seek legislation to mandate all payers' use of a standardized prior authorization form.

QUALITY OF CARE AND PATIENT SAFETY

- Seek opportunities for quality improvement and enhanced patient safety through education, voluntary reporting, care coordination and team-based care.
- Support programs that address gaps in transitions, and access to behavioral health and critical care services.
- Address medical liability reform and encourage alternative systems for dispute resolution in medical liability cases, including models such as health courts and workers' compensation or no-fault systems.
- Support and promote clinical research opportunities.
- Maintain current laws that regulate the corporate practice of medicine.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE DELIVERY

- Encourage and support evidence-based practice to achieve an appropriate balance between population health and individual well-being using principles of high-value, cost-conscious care.
- Support healthy lifestyles through the prevention and management of chronic diseases, including obesity, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, asthma, and prevention and cessation of tobacco, alcohol and drug abuse.
- Advocate for responsible environmental policies that support public health.
- Encourage programs to improve adult immunization rates, provide vaccination information and education for physicians and patients, and remove barriers to immunization.
- Support measures to strengthen preparedness for environmental disasters and outbreaks of infectious disease
- Seek changes to state law that would expand and clarify the definition of driving while intoxicated or impaired.
- Raise purchase age for all tobacco and nicotine products to 21.