ACP | **New York Chapter**
American College of Physicians
Leading Internal Medicine, Improving Lives

2024 Legislative Agenda

NYACP Health & Public Policy Committee
Kellin King, MD, FACP - Chair • Nandini Anandu, MD, FACP - Vice Chair

Access to Care - Health Care Delivery

- **Seek ongoing legislative support for Telehealth including:**
  - Payment parity,
  - Unrestricted locations for the delivery of telehealth - both patients and physicians,
  - Expansion of technology platforms across all payer types (public and private),
  - Expansion of broadband internet throughout NYS.

- **Address the shortage and maldistribution of physician workforce.**
  - Increase attention to physician burnout and evidence-based wellness solutions
  - Promote the importance of adequate funding for GME education and residency training slot increases tied toward the Primary Care pathway
  - Support and advocate for physician loan forgiveness programs, scholarships, and grants for practice start-up and ambulatory care training
  - Explore opportunities to improve access for foreign medical graduates

- **Support continued viability of independent practices.**
  - Focus on minimizing mandates.
  - Streamline the prior authorization process. CONTINUE TO OPPOSE STEP THERAPY BARRIERS FOR PATIENTS.
  - Standardize data collection and reporting rules.
  - Identify sources of grant support allowing independent practices to upgrade EMR systems and obtain EMR support.
  - Monitor and address potential threats associated with the corporate practice of medicine proposals.

- **Engage in the development and testing of alternative payment models to ensure fairness in payments to primary care physicians and alignment of outcome-based metrics that are evidence-based across all payers and relevant to all physician practice types, sizes, and settings.**

- **Explore how NYS can assist in preserving the traditional Medicare Program and eliminate any financially incentivized initiatives for moving patients with traditional Medicare into Medicare Advantage plans.**

- **Advocate against insurance proposals that are profit-driven, continue monitoring the NY Health Act, and all aspects of the NYS Medicaid program as it relates to the indigent care pool and undocumented individuals.**

Public Health

- **Support research, funding and increased attention/support for legislative policies that promote public health including, but not limited to, mitigation of climate change, anticipation of future environmental pandemics and disasters, threats of nuclear war, and possible infectious disease epidemics in the future.**
  - Encourage programs that seek to educate patients of the science behind public health measures.
  - Encourage programs that seek to address vaccine hesitancy and remove barriers to immunizations .
  - Support bills that address climate change, particularly as it relates to healthcare and healthcare delivery.

- **Promote and participate in opportunities that explore and address the issue of health disparities both through education and research**

- **Advocate for change but support evidence-based solutions for reducing health care disparities**

- **Continue to support proposals targeted toward reducing violence and deaths from firearm injuries - both to our patients as well as our physician workforce.**

- **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
  - Support integration and expansion of behavioral health in NYS
  - Support prevention of and treatment for substance use disorders, including tobacco use

Quality of Care and Patient Safety

- **Ongoing support for Quality Improvement and enhanced patient safety including:**
  - Increased education and understanding of patient safety.
  - Support for voluntary reporting, care coordination, and peer-review.
  - Healthcare practitioner transparency.
  - Continued collaboration and supervision of non-physician practitioners and awareness to medical-legal issues .

- **Increased support for team-based care and continue advocating for physician-led teams**

- **Support for comprehensive medical liability reform and development of alternative systems for dispute resolution (i.e., health courts /expert systems) and no-fault systems**

- **Support and promote financing and expansion of opportunities for clinical research—especially for historically underrepresented populations from diverse backgrounds**

- **Continue to monitor safety net hospitals in NYS for access to healthcare for all individuals including non-citizens in rural, suburban, and urban areas**

- **Eliminate barriers and lower the threshold to access medications that treat mental health issues and substance use disorders, including but not limited to opioid, alcohol, and other substances**