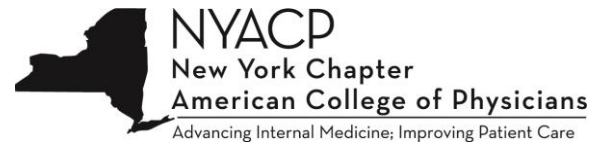


2016 Legislative Priorities



Access to Care

- Monitor and encourage all activities that accelerate testing and adoption of innovative integrated care and alternative payment models across all payers to ensure alignment of metrics and capacity for adoption by all physician practices. Engage in and contribute to the development of the State Health Innovation Plan, the State Innovations Model grant and DSRIP.
- Engage policymakers to ensure the continuing viability of independent physician practices, regardless of size.
- Promote growth of the physician workforce through: adequate funding of graduate medical education, physician loan forgiveness, scholarships, expenses for practice start-up and ambulatory care training; and exploration of innovative strategies to prevent physician burnout and sponsorship of practical tools and resources for restoring joy in the practice of medicine.
- Seek and support legislation to mandate all payers' use of a standardized prior authorization form.
- Monitor the progress of New York State of Health and current issues facing Medicare Advantage plans to ensure adequacy of coverage for all New Yorkers.

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 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 expanded opportunities for clinical research.
- Maintain current laws that regulate the corporate practice of medicine.
- Develop and/or promote educational training modules related to opioid and heroin addiction in lieu of additional CME mandates.

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, and asthma, and prevention and cessation of alcohol and substance abuse and use of tobacco products.
- 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.
- Support efforts to utilize the principles of population health to improve the quality and efficiency of care.
- Raise the legal purchase age for all tobacco and nicotine products to 21.