

HOW ACP ADVOCATED FOR YOU IN 2022

Addressing Critical Issues Impacting Internal Medicine Physicians, Patients, and Health Care



Advocated on Key Public Health and Policy Issues

Years of ACP advocacy with Congress led to provisions in the Inflation Reduction Act that will improve public health, including: allows Medicare to negotiate the price of prescription drugs, caps out-of-pocket Medicare drug costs, eliminates Medicare cost-sharing for vaccines, improves subsidies for ACA health insurance, and makes significant investments to combat climate change

A leading voice in pressing Congress for common-sense firearm regulations that help to keep patients safe from firearm-related injury and death, ACP strongly supported passage of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, the first new law in decades designed to reduce firearm violence

Support for Physician Practices

Successfully advocated for changes in the 2023 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule that streamlines documentation requirements across E/M codes

As part of ACP's Patients Before Paperwork Initiative, collaborated with Medicine Forward on a webinar series to address the burden of prior authorization and solutions to mitigate unnecessary requirements

Supported "Improving Seniors Timely Access to Care Act" which streamlines prior authorization process and protects patients from unnecessary delays (passed the House of Representatives in September 2022)

Helped secure a 151-day extension to temporary telehealth coverage authorized under the COVID-19 public health emergency and continuing advocacy for the Advancing Telehealth Beyond COVID-19 Act, which would further authorize many of the currently temporary Medicare telehealth authorities



Prioritized Physician Well-being

Advocated for the passage of the "Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act," which is aligned with ACP's commitment to address the behavioral health needs of medical professionals

Campaigned to remove inappropriate mental health questions from state license and credentialing applications

Supported ACP Member Engagement in Advocacy

More than 370 ACP members participated in-person at ACP's Leadership Day in Washington, DC—attendees came from 44 states, 314 congressional districts, and participated in 99 congressional meetings addressing key internal medicine issues

Created advocacy toolkits related to key policy issues including reproductive health care, climate change, and reducing firearm injury and death



Issued New Policies Urging Policymakers to Take Action on Key Issues

Health Care During Incarceration

Environmental Health

Supporting the Health and Well-Being of Indigenous Communities

Long-Term Services and Supports for Older Adults

Strengthening Food and Nutrition Security to Promote U.S. Public Health

Reforming Physician Payments to Achieve Greater Equity and Value in Health Care

Women's Health Policy in the U.S. (updated)

Beyond the Referral: Principles of Effective, Ongoing Primary and Specialty Care Collaboration

Championed the Value of Internal Medicine Physicians

Launched a multi-year initiative celebrating the vital role and value of internal medicine physicians

Celebrated National Internal Medicine Day (October 28) to acknowledge and celebrate internal medicine physicians and the profession of internal medicine



Advocated to Improve Board Certification Policies and Procedures

Collaborated with the American Board of Internal Medicine to:

- > Reduce administrative burdens
- > Increase educational value
- > Decrease financial burdens
- > Recognize physicians for their ongoing work to improve quality of care, including efforts to eliminate health care disparities
- > Clarify the purpose and limitations of certification for the public, diplomates, and credentialers

Provided assessments of the value of certification programs

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