

ACP Statement of Commitment to Physician Well-being and Professional Satisfaction

The American College of Physicians (ACP) is committed to physician well-being and professional satisfaction and to helping internists experience greater fulfillment by identifying, promoting, and disseminating approaches to improve the practice environment so that they can better serve their patients and communities. Because changing systems and environment takes time, ACP will also provide resources to help individuals who are currently at risk for or suffering from burnout.

ACP's Physician Well-being and Professional Satisfaction Task Force is identifying strategies and necessary infrastructure to improve the efficiency of practice, reduce administrative burden, promote an organizational culture of wellness and enhance individual resilience. The ACP is committed to ongoing measurement and tracking of internist burnout and well-being to help guide efforts in this area. As part of the initiative, ACP is providing guidance and resources that optimize the well-being and engagement of internists and other members of the clinical team to help them best serve their patients and communities. We are working closely with ACP's Center for Patient Partnership in Healthcare to collaborate with patients and families to help identify mutually beneficial solutions, and we have patient representation on our task force. Educational courses at national and regional conferences and online educational tools will be made available to ACP members. A key foundation of our initiatives is a dedicated cadre of trained ACP "Well-being Champions" who will be deployed regionally throughout the U.S. to assist chapter members, practices and organizations in combatting burnout and informing them of our national efforts to improve the practice environment through national collaborations (including the NAM Action Collaborative), advocacy and regulatory efforts.

One such national effort is the ACP 'Patients Before Paperwork' initiative that is related to physician well-being in that excessive administrative tasks in health care have serious adverse consequences for physicians and their patients. ACP's "[Putting Patients First by Reducing Administrative Tasks in Healthcare](#)" paper was published in *Annals of Internal Medicine* on March 28, 2017 and presents a framework to analyze administrative tasks and determine whether they may need to be challenged, revised, or eliminated entirely. ACP is cross-linking its efforts around physician well-being and resilience with its Patients Before Paperwork initiative, and will continue its advocacy efforts to reduce excessive administrative burdens on physicians.

About the American College of Physicians

The [American College of Physicians](#) is the largest medical specialty organization in the United States with members in more than 145 countries worldwide. ACP membership includes 152,000 internal medicine physicians (internists), related subspecialists, and medical students. Internal medicine physicians are specialists who apply scientific knowledge and clinical expertise to the diagnosis, treatment, and compassionate care of adults across the spectrum from health to complex illness. Follow ACP on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).