

Dear Colleagues: Thank you for your membership in ACP. Here is a brief list of alerts, resources and upcoming events.

MN-ACP Minnesota Health Policy and Advocacy Priorities:

The MN-ACP Health Policy and Advocacy Committee has identified the following legislative priorities for advocacy during the 2019 Minnesota legislative session.

Improve Public Health

- Reduce gun injuries and deaths in Minnesota
- Support local and state legislative efforts to pass Tobacco-21 ordinances and to reduce access for e-cigarettes to those under 18 years of age.
- Support appropriate and effective legislative/regulatory interventions in the opioid crisis, ensuring that these do not include overzealous restrictions/burdens on clinicians and patients
- Reduce suicide deaths in Minnesota and increase access to mental health resources statewide

Improve Patient Affordability and Health/Behavioral Health Access

- Support continued Medicaid and MinnesotaCare coverage and oppose cuts (to benefits, eligibility, or provider payments)
- Support continued funding of Medicaid and MinnesotaCare that ensures access to health care for all those eligible for these programs
- Support solutions for affordable health insurance for those who buy health insurance in the individual market but who do not qualify for federal subsidies. This could be a new reinsurance program or a MinnesotaCare buy-in if clinicians receive Medicare payment rates.

Support Minnesota Physicians' Ability to Practice

- Support electronic exchange of health information including modifications in Minnesota data privacy law to facilitate greater utility of the MN Health Information Exchange
- Prior authorization reform to reduce the burden on clinicians who are trying to prescribe the clinically most appropriate medications for patients.

Advocacy Action Steps

- If you are interested in receiving monthly updates on these MN-ACP advocacy activities, please sign up for the ACP Advocates for Internal Medicine Network [here](#)
- If you are interested in working on gun violence reduction activities with a group of interested medical students please contact Minnesota.ACP@gmail.com

Your Input Drives ACP's Vision for Health Care

ACP is in the process of developing a series of papers outlining a new vision for American health care. These papers will address a number of topics, including:

- Coverage and Cost of Care
- Delivery System and Payment Reforms
- Reducing Barriers to Care

Please take about 5 minutes to help us better understand your thoughts on the current state of health care and provide opinions on proposed plans to ensure all Americans have affordable health care coverage. We value your time and input, so thank you in advance for your participation in this brief survey. ACP is working on policy drafts, so please share your ideas with ACP **before March 21st** by [completing this survey](#)

Upcoming events:

- **April 11-13, 2019 -ACP- IM:2019** in Philadelphia [Registration and information](#)
- **April 12, 2019- 6-7:15pm** MN-ACP and Mayo Clinic Alumni reception at the Philadelphia ACP meeting [information](#)
- **May 14-15, 2019 - ACP Leadership Day** in Washington, DC [information](#)
- **Oct. 10-11, 2019-** Minnesota Internal Medicine:2019 at the Minneapolis Convention Center

How can we better serve you? Please contact me with questions or thoughts on how the MN ACP can serve you. John B. Bundrick, MD, FACP Governor, MN ACP at bundrick.john@mayo.edu

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