

Congressional Action Needed on Medicare Physician Payment

In July, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released the 2023 Medicare physician fee schedule and Quality Payment Program proposed rule. It includes an estimated 4.5% reduction in the Medicare conversion factor – the multiplier CMS uses to calculate payment rates. Coupled with steep increases in practice costs, this may result in untenable Medicare payment cuts for family physicians in 2023 and jeopardize patients' timely access to essential care. The AAFP and other health care organizations are urging Congress to stop forthcoming Medicare payment cuts and enact reform to protect patients' access to high-quality care:

- Call on Congress to avert Medicare Part B payment cuts set to go into effect by increasing the 2023 Medicare conversion factor.
- Urge Congress to enact positive annual updates for Medicare physician payments to account for increasing practice costs and address the limitations of Medicare budget-neutrality requirements.
- Support legislation to extend the alternative payment model bonus for another five years and to reform the qualifying criteria so that more clinicians can transition into alternative payment models.

[Act today by submitting a Speak Out message](#)

Missouri Academy's Annual Meeting

The Missouri Academy of Family Physicians will hold its annual meeting on Saturday, November 12, at 11:45 a.m. at Big Cedar Lodge. The meeting agenda and materials will be available later. The annual meeting is held in conjunction with the 30th Annual Fall Conference.

[Learn more about the conference](#)

Monkeypox Resources Available on the MAFP Website

As a member benefit, the Missouri Academy wants to provide you with easily accessible resources on Monkeypox. [Visit our webpage](#) for links to national, state, and local information.

Congress of Delegates Written Testimony Accepted

Between September 1-9, 2022, any member will be able to submit written testimony on an AAFP Congress of Delegates resolution through the AAFP website. The ability to comment on each resolution will replicate the functionality used to comment on news stories. The written testimony will be collated for each resolution and shared with the respective reference committee for consideration. Written testimony is limited to no more than 250 words. Testimony should be directed to what is being asked in the resolved clauses of the resolution. Please advocate for your position but be respectful of differing opinions and refrain from responding directly to other members who are also posting testimony. If you submit written testimony, the same testimony need not be presented again verbally during the live reference committee hearings. Written testimony will not be accepted on extracted items from the 2021 Virtual Reference Committee Hearings of the COD that will be debated during the 2022 COD. [Resolutions are available here.](#)

Important News from the Show-Me-State

Back-To-School Vaccine Resources from AAFP

AAFP recently released a new set of vaccine resources for both providers and patients, just in time for back to school. Click the links below to download the resources.

- [Vaccine Safety System Factsheet](#) - Information to help you have conversations with patients on vaccine development, approval, and safety monitoring
 - [What your doctor wants you to know about vaccines for kids](#) - A handout to give patients on kids' vaccines
 - [Email templates for vaccine communications](#) - Sample templates for contacting patients to schedule vaccine appointments (DOWNLOAD)
 - [Anticipatory guidance to recommend routine vaccination for adults](#) - Information to prepare you for counseling adults on routine vaccines
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Nominations for AAFP Commission, AAFP AMA Delegation, and ABFM Board of Directors Positions are Being Accepted

The nomination forms for AAFP Commission, AAFP AMA Delegation, and ABFM Board of Directors positions are available online. Accessing the forms is through the AAFP website and is available until October 15, 2022. The AAFP Board of Directors invites members to self-nominate for these important leadership positions. At the December 2022 meeting, the Board of Directors will fill 33 commission vacancies, including three-chapter staff positions on eight AAFP commissions, two AMA Delegation positions created by expiring terms of members, and five nominees to be submitted for consideration to the ABFM for their Board of Directors. Questions can be sent by email to leadershipnominations@aafp.org. The AAFP submits a letter of support for the nominee through this platform.

Show Me ECHO Back Online in September

Family Physicians providing top notch healthcare is a major component of Missouri's healthcare system. The Missouri Telehealth Network works hard to create learning environments where interdisciplinary teams of experts can videoconference with primary care clinicians and other professionals on interactive case-based learning. Show-Me ECHO learning sessions offer free continuing education credit and sessions are provided at no cost to participating sites and individuals. During the summer many of our ECHO's take a short break, the following ECHOs will come back online in September: Diabetes, Foster Care in Health Care Hep C, Hypertension, Pain Management, Trauma Informed Schools, Developmental Disabilities, and Head Start. These ECHOs will come back online in October: Autism Behavioral Solutions and Child Psych. Visit www.showmeecho.org to register or learn more about any of our close to 40 ECHOs.

Survey: Primary Care and Suicide Risk Reduction – Deadline: September 30, 2022

Lauren Wilson, a Saint Louis University doctoral candidate in the Medical Family Therapy Program, is conducting a dissertation research study titled: Primary Care and Suicide Risk Reduction. The 5-10-minute survey will explore how primary care providers perceive their role in suicide risk reduction and behavioral health collaboration. To begin, click or copy the following link: <https://bit.ly/pcp-suicide-survey>.

Survey: Tobacco and E-Cig Cessation Treatment – Deadline extended to September 15

The Missouri Tobacco Prevention and Control Program has partnered with researchers and providers in Kansas and Missouri and are conducting a brief survey (5-10 minutes) to understand medical providers' thoughts on tobacco and electronic cigarette cessation treatment. The information gathered from this survey will inform the creation of educational materials and web-based education to improve patient care in Kansas and Missouri. If you are interested in being entered into a raffle for one of two \$100 Amazon gift cards, please follow this [LINK](#) . You will be notified via email if you are selected to receive one of the gift cards. You may participate in the raffle regardless of study participation. If interested in participating, please follow this link to the brief online survey: <https://redcap.kumc.edu/surveys/?s=4WFC3JM4NE>.

Upcoming Events

- Virtual KSA: Care of Hospitalized Patients | October 16, 2022 | [Learn more](#)
- 30th Annual Fall Conference | November 11-12, 2022 | Big Cedar Lodge, Ridgedale | [Learn more](#)
- MAFP Commission and Board of Directors Meetings | November 13, 2022 | Big Cedar Lodge, Ridgedale
- Virtual KSA: Care of Women | November 20, 2022 | [Learn more](#)
- MAFP Advocacy Day | February 13-14, 2023 | Courtyard Marriott, Jefferson City | [Learn more](#)
- MAFP Board of Directors Meeting | February 14, 2023 | Courtyard Marriott, Jefferson City

Check out the [American Foundation for Firearms Research in Medicine \(AFFIRM\)](#) podcast series on [firearm injury and death prevention](#) including suicide as well as mental health issues.