

Michigan Association of Osteopathic Family Physicians

Talking Points

Access to Care

There should be implementation of incentives which will increase the supply of family physicians in the state of Michigan. These incentives should include scholarships, loan forgiveness or other programs that encourage students to become family physicians. The retention of practicing family physicians should be encouraged by the state of Michigan. Providing an adequate supply of family physicians increases patients' access to care.

Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH)

Encourage and implement the concept of the PCMH directed by family physicians which will allow us to keep our patient healthier by more efficient use of medical resources. This will allow us to improve preventative care, reduce hospitalizations, reduce emergency room utilization, use specialty care more efficiently and use other strategies which will improve the quality of care and provide more cost effective care for our patients.

Scope of Practice

All providers should be able to provide services which they are adequately educated, trained and licensed for. All patients at the onset of their care and treatment or in the advertising of such should clearly understand the credentials of the physician who is providing the service.

Protect and Improve the Family Practice Environment

All insurance carriers should implement coverage for and adequately reimburse for preventive care, chronic disease management and for coordination of care. This will improve access to care and improve the health of our patients.

In order to provide high quality cost efficient care we need an ample supply of family physicians that can diagnose, treat, and coordinate quality care for our patients. We need to educate and encourage medical students to go into family medicine by providing scholarships, loan forgiveness and other programs. Practicing family physicians need fair and equitable reimbursement for the services they provide and to perform services they are educated, trained and licensed for. Tort reform is an important part of providing improved access to care, quality care and cost effective care.