**Congress of Delegates Summary of Actions Taken in June 2019**

Thank you to Dr. Bill Klepack for compiling!

We find many times that family physicians are not aware of all that their state academy does for them. Here is an abridged summary of actions taken by this year's Congress of Delegates held June 15-16. The Congress is composed of family physicians who are delegates from chapters across the state.

Dr. Klepack has organized the actions into categories for you. From even briefly looking these over, we think you will see that, whether you are employed or own a practice or whether you are hospital or community based, the Academy is working on issues of importance to you.

***Your membership*** adds to the strength of the Academy and, thus, to the likelihood that it can prevail in issues that matter to you.

You can view the complete set of past policies of the Academy at:

<http://www.nysafp.org/NYSAFP/media/PDFs/Policy-Positions-Manual-TOC-links-2017.pdf>

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# **1 Actions that have an impact on day to day practice**

SUBJECT:*“Inform Doctors of Formulary Alternatives When Requiring Prior Authorizations"*

RESOLVED that the NYSAFP work with the State Department of Financial Services and with members of the State Senate and Assembly to create legislation or regulation requiring that any communique to a prescribing physician which requires a prior authorization MUST also delineate all similar drugs which are on formulary and do not require a prior authorization. Referring the physician to an online formulary does not satisfy this requirement.

*SUBJECT:**“Eliminate Prior Authorization for Generic Medications”*

RESOLVED, that the NYSAFP work with the New York State Insurance Commissioner, the New York State Department of Health, and with New York State Legislators to eliminate the use of prior authorizations for prescriptions for any medications which are cost effective. This would include ALL low-cost generic medications, as well as branded medications which are cost effective, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the NYSAFP will advocate for a standardized prior authorization format and process to be used by all insurers who are licensed in New York State.

*SUBJECT:**“Promoting Physician Sharing of Health Information”*

RESOLVED that New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) support a legislative shift to an opt-out policy where patients must explicitly ask for records NOT to be shared, encouraging seamless sharing of personal health information among all NYS health care providers.

*SUBJECT:**“Collective Bargaining as an Integral Part of Single Payer”*

RESOLVED that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) State Delegation to the AAFP Congress of Delegates (COD) bring a resolution to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress COD stating that the American Academy of Family Physicians unequivocally supports the right of physicians to organize and bargain collectively, and be it further

RESOLVED that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegation to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates bring a resolution directing that the AAFP shall include physician collective bargaining in any health care system reform plans which it recommends for consideration by policymakers, and be it further

RESOLVED that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegation to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates seek co-sponsorship from other state delegations for a resolution directing that the AAFP shall include physician collective bargaining in any health care system reform plans which it recommends for consideration by policymakers.

*SUBJECT:**“Streamlined Administrative Environment in any Healthcare Reform”*

RESOLVED that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegation to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates bring a resolution directing that the AAFP support implementation of a single set of administrative rules and procedures in any form of health care system reform considered by policymakers or considered by the AAFP.

*SUBJECT: The 12% Solution*

RESOLVED that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians advocate for public policy in the New York State Legislature to review publicly the percentage of health care payments to primary care,\* and BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians advocate for public policy to assure that each health care plan spend between 12-20% of its total health care spending on primary care,\*

\*As defined by the AAFP: <https://www.aafp.org/about/policies/all/primary-care.html>

*SUBJECT*: *Eliminate Race-Based Medicine*

RESOLVED that New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegates to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates submit a resolution directing the AAFP to adopt a policy that speaks against the use of race /ethnicity as a proxy for biology or genetics in clinical evaluation and management guidelines, and that identifies race as a social construct, and be it further

RESOLVED that New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegates to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates submit a resolution directing the AAFP to support members in critically evaluating their use of race in research and clinical practice, and be it further

RESOLVED that New York State Academy of Family Physicians delegates to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates submit a resolution directing the AAFP to support research to investigate indicators alternative to race to stratify medical risk factors for disease states, and be it further

RESOLVED that New York State Academy of Family Physicians delegates to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates submit a resolution directing the AAFP to advocate for estimated glomerular filtration rate to be reported without regard to race by liaising with other medical associations (including the American Society of Nephrology).

*SUBJECT: Opposing Non-Medical Exemptions From Immunizations Required for School*

RESOLVED that the New York Academy of Family Physicians Board of Directors draft and send a letter expressing our agreement and thanks to members of the NYS Assembly, Senate and Governor for their successful passage of legislation removing non-medical exemptions from immunizations required for school as New York State policy.

*SUBJECT: Oppose Criminalization of Physicians Providing Abortion Care*

RESOLVED, that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegates to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates submit a resolution asking the AAFP to publicly oppose any law which would criminalize physicians for providing abortion care

# **2 Actions that affect patient's access to health care**

*SUBJECT:**“Single Payer to be the Preferred System of Healthcare Delivery Supported by the AAFP”*

RESOLVED that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegation to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates will bring  a resolution directing that Single Payer will be the preferred system of the AAFP in efforts for health care reform, and be it further

RESOLVED that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegation to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates seek co-sponsorship from other state delegations for a resolution directing that Single Payer be the preferred system of the AAFP in efforts for health care reform from other state delegations.

*SUBJECT:**“Insurance Coverage Must Equate to Access to Care”*

RESOLVED that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegation to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates bring a resolution directing that the AAFP will prioritize supporting a system of health care in which coverage equates to access to comprehensive healthcare including a medical home,

*SUBJECT: “Assure Patient Access to Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) by Reducing Barriers to Nurse Practitioner (NP) and Physician Assistant (PA) Waiver Training”*

RESOLVED that New York State Academy of Family Physicians advocate for new legislation prior to the expiration of current legislation that would allow buprenorphine waiver training programs to be available to advanced practitioners indefinitely without expiration, and be it further

RESOLVED that New York State Academy of Family Physicians advocate **that** the training requirement for advanced practitioners to obtain buprenorphine waiver training **be the same as that for** physicians.

*SUBJECT: Help Prevent Opioid Overdose Deaths by Improving Patient Access to Naloxone*

RESOLVED, that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) will compile best practices on the provision of naloxone for overdose for patients prescribed chronic opioids.

RESOLVED that best practices on the provision of naloxone for overdose for patients prescribed chronic opioids will be posted on the New York State Academy of

Family Physicians (NYSAFP) website.

*SUBJECT: More Physician Representation on County and State Groups Addressing the Opioid Epidemic*

RESOLVED that New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) encourage County Chapters to partner with their correlated County Department of Health or local opioid task forces to provide a cooperative platform for advances in combating the opioid epidemic, and be it further

RESOLVED that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) offer family physician representation to state level opioid policy deliberative bodies that may exist, and be it further

RESOLVED that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) provide a periodic summary to the current NYS Commissioner of Health on challenges faced by physicians who are on the front lines of the opioid epidemic.

# **3 Actions that affect physician educational resources**

*SUBJECT:**“Addition of New CME Category ‘Health Care Systems, Health Care Economics and Health Care Policy’”*

RESOLVED that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegation to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates bring a resolution directing that the AAFP will add the CME category: "Health Care Systems, Health Care Economics, and Health Care Policy" to enable execution of policy as reflected in Resolution 502 adopted by the AAFP COD in 2018.

# **4 Actions that have an impact on privacy**

*SUBJECT:**“Stop Data Mining by Insurance Companies”*

RESOLVED the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) adopt a policy opposing the trading of personal or lifestyle data as it relates to matters of health insurance, and be it further

RESOLVED the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) advocate against the permissibility of health insurance companies to use lifestyle data to make coverage, cost, or market determinations, and be it further

RESOLVED the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) seek to introduce legislation making it illegal for health insurance companies to procure lifestyle data on current or potential customers.

* - Lifestyle data examples may include, but are not limited to:
  + the things you buy, the food you eat, the time you spend watching TV
  + race, education level, marital status (including recent changes), net worth
  + what you post on social media, whether you're behind on your bills, what you order online
  + The size of your clothes, criminal records, bankruptcies, property records, neighborhood safety

*SUBJECT:**“Stop Insurance Companies From Requiring Lifestyle Tracking”*

RESOLVED the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) adopt a policy opposing the required use of lifestyle or exercise data tracking as it relates to matters of life insurance, and be it further

RESOLVED the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) advocate against the permissibility of life insurance companies to require consumers to agree to lifestyle or exercise tracking to make coverage, cost, or market determinations, and be it further

RESOLVED the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) seek to introduce legislation making it illegal for life insurance companies to require tracking of lifestyle or exercise data on current or potential customers.

* - Lifestyle data examples may include, but are not limited to:
  + the things you buy, the food you eat, the time you spend watching TV
  + race, education level, marital status (including recent changes), net worth
  + what you post on social media, whether you're behind on your bills, what you order online
  + The size of your clothes, criminal records, bankruptcies, property records, neighborhood safety

# **5 Actions regarding women's health**

*SUBJECT:**“Addressing Stealthing as a Form of Sexual Assault”*

RESOLVED, that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegates to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates submit a resolution directing the AAFP to develop a policy defining sexual assault and include non-consensual condom removal as a form of sexual assault, and be it further

RESOLVED that the NYS New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) support legislative efforts that include non-consensual condom removal as a form of sexual assault.

*SUBJECT: “Policy Related to Prostitution and the Sex Trade”*

RESOLVED that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians support legislation that decriminalizes individuals who exchange sex for money or goods and legislation that provides resources and support for those choosing to exit the sex industry, and be it further

RESOLVED that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians advocate against legislation that decriminalizes sex buying and third-party promoters and profiteers, and be it further

RESOLVED that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) Delegates bring a resolution to 2019 American Academy of Family Physicians Congress of Delegates that reflects the prostitution-related policies of our NYSAFP, and be it further

RESOLVED that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians work with other state healthcare stakeholders, including the Medical Society of the State of New York and the New York State American Academy of Pediatrics to discuss collaborative advocacy regarding decriminalization of prostitution policy.

*SUBJECT: Support Breastfeeding Mothers in the Workplace*

RESOLVED that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) will advocate for the enforcement of current legislation as well as advocate for additional legislation that supports the ability of working mothers to breastfeed and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegates to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates submit a resolution directing the AAFP to advocate for the enforcement of current legislation as well as advocate for additional legislation that supports the ability of working mothers to breastfeed in the workplace.

*SUBJECT: Affirming the Safety & Legality of Abortion*

RESOLVED, that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegates to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates submit a resolution directing the AAFP to affirm the legality of Roe v. Wade in the form of a policy statement, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegates to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates submit a resolution directing the AAFP to partner with related stakeholders in position papers to defend access to safe and legal abortion across the US, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegates to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates submit a resolution directing the AAFP to support the right of family physicians to provide medication abortions with mifepristone in their general family practices.

*SUBJECT:**Mifepristone Use in Early Pregnancy Loss Management*

RESOLVED, that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegates to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates submit a resolution directing the AAFP to promote the use of Mifepristone for medical management of early pregnancy with the most evidence for safety and effectiveness and be it further

RESOLVED, that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegates to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates submit a resolution directing the AAFP to reaffirm its efforts to overturn restrictions on the prescribing of Mifepristone, especially in light of data supporting its use in early pregnancy loss, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegates to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates submit a resolution directing the AAFP to recommend that early pregnancy loss management be included in the FMX, Maternity Care Conference, and the Women’s Health Conference on a rotational basis.

# **6 Actions that affect the future of family medicine and its residents**

*SUBJECT:    “Applied Education in Billing and Coding in Family Medicine Residency”*

RESOLVED, that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegates to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates submit a resolution directing the AAFP to offer family medicine residents applied education in billing and coding, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegates to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates submit a resolution directing the AAFP to include in the next update of the American Academy of Family Physicians practice management curriculum guidelines that residency annual billing and coding workshops emphasize an applied component of billing and coding, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegates to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates submit a resolution directing the AAFP to offer an applied billing and coding workshop at the annual National Conference of Family Medicine Residents and Medical Students, and be it further

RESOLVED that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) offer an applied billing and coding workshop to residents at the Winter Weekend or at the Resident Leadership Seminar held at the conclusion of the annual NYSAFP Congress of Delegates.

*SUBJECT:* *Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Training During Residency*

RESOLVED that New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) strongly encourage all Family Medicine residencies within New York State to offer Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) education and allowing for resident physicians to complete buprenorphine waiver training as part of MAT training prior to completing residency.

# **7 Actions having an impact on health care through Social Determinants of Health**

*SUBJECT: ‘Greenlight’—Driver’s Licenses for Undocumented Immigrants*

RESOLVED that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians petition the New York State legislature to pass legislation to permit undocumented immigrants the right and privilege of applying for and receiving State driver’s licenses, to protect and enhance the health and wellbeing of the people living in our State.

*SUBJECT:**Oppose Racism*

RESOLVED, that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegates to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates submit a resolution directing the AAFP to ask that the LCME add race to its existing “Cultural Competence and Health Care Disparities” section 7.6 of their Functions and Structure of a Medical School Standards for Accreditation of Medical Education Programs Leading to the MD Degree,9, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegates to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates submit a resolution directing the AAFP to ask that the ACGME adopt an anti-racism policy that includes corresponding curricular requirements, and be it further

RESOLVED that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) task the Education Commission to develop a policy on training in racism and implicit bias for officeholders and commission members, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegates to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates submit a resolution directing the AAFP to require implicit bias training for AAFP national officeholders and commission members, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegates to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates submit a resolution directing the AAFP to  take an active stance against racism when racist events occur in the medical community.

*SUBJECT:**AAFP Supports Family Leave*

RESOLVED, that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegates to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates submit a resolution directing the AAFP to support a minimum of 12 weeks paid leave for primary caregivers for a newly born or adopted child, including family physicians and residents employed by organizations with greater than 50 employees, and support an optional extension of this leave as unpaid time off.

Dr. Ravi moved that the resolution be referred to the board. The motion carried. Resolution was referred to the board.

# **8 Actions affecting NYSAFP or AAFP policies**

*SUBJECT:**Facilitating Gender Pronouns on Name Tags and Electronic Registration at All AAFP Events*

RESOLVED that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) facilitate all individuals wanting to identify their own preferred pronouns of address to be visible on registrant badges for NYSAFP meetings, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegates to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates submit a resolution asking the AAFP to facilitate all individuals being able to identify their preferred pronouns upon event registration, including printed pronouns on name badges, at all AAFP-sponsored events and conferences starting in 2020, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the New York State Academy of Family Physicians (NYSAFP) delegates to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Congress of Delegates submit a resolution asking the AAFP to make gender pronouns an option on AAFP electronic and written materials (e.g. added field on badges, sign-in sheets, registration interfaces)