



AAPA Letter to AMA
Constituent Organizations Talking Points
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*Should your CO receive media queries, please contact
Jenni Roberson, AAPA director of media relations.*

If your CO has faced obstacles from medical societies and you are interested in working with AAPA to develop a strategy for a follow-on letter or other efforts, please contact advocacy@aapa.org.

PRIMARY MESSAGE

- [Organization Name] supports AAPA in calling on the AMA to stop its “scope creep” campaign. This campaign against PAs disregards our contributions and impedes progress in our nation’s healthcare system.
- The AMA has, for many years, worked aggressively to defeat legislation that PAs have supported.
- For many years, the AMA has worked to obstruct numerous bills across the country. In 2023, the AMA claims success in obstructing over 100 bills working in partnership with their state medical societies. The AMA’s actions have created significant barriers to addressing the pressing challenges within our healthcare delivery system.
 - CO to add a point about bills supported by their organization that met with strong physician-led opposition and/or AMA “scope creep” campaign attacks. Include points about how this legislation would have expanded healthcare needs in your state, including state-specific data points about unmet healthcare needs. Contact AAPA for assistance.
- **We are hopeful the AMA and state medical societies will reach a decision to lay aside their scope creep campaign so that we can come together and put our energy toward what really matters.**

KEY MESSAGES

- **Patient Safety**

- Modernized healthcare practice laws are good for patients.
 - [A recent analysis](#) of 10 years of medical malpractice payment report (MMPR) data found there is no increase in malpractice payments in states with more permissive PA practice environments. In fact, such environments have led to a reduction in malpractice payments for both PAs and physicians, highlighting that modernized practice laws improve patient safety.

- **Quality of PA Care**

- As medically trained clinicians and valuable members in today's healthcare team, PAs are expanding access to high-quality medical care.
- PAs are committed to team-based care. PAs work with all healthcare providers to ensure patients receive high-quality, personalized care.
 - PAs know our scope of practice and when it is necessary to consult or collaborate with other healthcare providers.
 - [Numerous studies](#) have shown that PAs provide high-quality patient care and bring value to patients and PA employers.

- **PA Education**

- Educated at the master's degree level, PAs undergo rigorous education and training to practice medicine, and their commitment to continuous learning and certification ensures they provide high-quality, expert care.
- PA training and education prepares our profession to respond to the needs of the community. We are educated in general medicine, which offers a comprehensive view of all aspects of medicine.

- **Patient Provider Preference**

- Research shows that 76% of patients prioritize the quality of care over the type of provider they see. This underscores the need to focus on care excellence rather than outdated hierarchies. ([2023 Harris Poll](#))

- **Cost of Care**

- PAs provide quality and cost-effective care. [A large 2021 study](#) found PAs provided the same, or better, care to patients as physicians and at a lower cost. Researchers looked at 39 studies across North America, Europe and Africa completed between 1977 -2021.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING POINTS

- **Patients value and trust PAs.** ([2023 Harris Poll](#))

- PA practice laws should be updated to allow states and healthcare systems to fully utilize their healthcare workforce. (91%)
- Patients value PAs and see them as a solution to the ongoing workforce shortages (91%).
- Patients view PAs as trusted healthcare providers (90%).
- PAs make patients feel valued (95%).
- Patients believe PAs add value to healthcare teams (93%).
- PAs improve healthcare outcomes (89%).
- Patients think PAs improve the quality of care (88%).
- Patients who have seen a PA would trust a PA to serve as their primary care provider (67%).