

Member Message

September 2021

Improving your practice environment

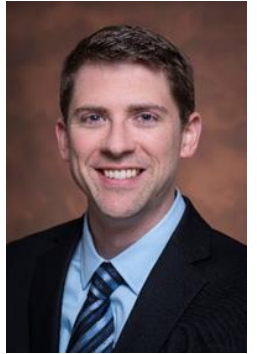
IAFP and AAFP work to voice family medicine's concerns and provide [resources](#) to improve your practice environment. Most recently, our advances include:

Prior Authorization

Watch this [Family Medicine Practice Hack video](#) for tips that help reduce the burdens of prior authorization.

Illinois' Prior Authorization Reform law takes effect Jan. 1, 2022, and requires that:

1. Health insurance companies respond to prior authorization requests within well-defined, shortened and more immediate timelines for all care; no one will wait longer than one week for an answer from a health insurance company.
2. Insurers use medical professionals with relevant experience in the appropriate specialty to make prior authorization decisions.
3. Clear time frames be put in place for how long a prior authorization approval is valid for acute and chronic conditions to avoid disruptions in stable treatment plans.
4. Prior authorization requirements are transparent and follow evidence-based guidelines



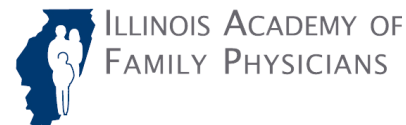
Telehealth

In an IAFP survey last year, 69% of respondents identified telehealth services as helpful specifically for their patients who are residents of underserved areas. In July, Illinois enacted a new law which requires that insurers cover telehealth services reimbursed at in-person visit rates through the end of 2027, except for mental health and substance use disorder telehealth services, which are permanent.

Stay connected with and through IAFP

As we install the 2021-22 Board of Directors next month, know that our work will continue to prioritize your ability to care for patients.

Thank you for valuing your membership,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Hanak'.

*Michael A. Hanak, MD, FAAFP
President*