



The FMA: Helping Physicians Practice Medicine.

Throughout this turbulent time in medicine, the FMA has been working diligently to fulfill our mission of Helping Physicians Practice Medicine.

Advocating for Physicians

As the Voice of Medicine in Florida, the FMA has been advocating for physicians on the following legislative and regulatory issues:

- **Sent multiple letters** and lobbied Insurance Commissioner Altmaier for an Order requiring telehealth coverage on par with CMS' recent changes for the Medicare program, and for an order prohibiting insurance companies from imposing prior authorization requirements during the state of emergency.
- **Sent this letter** and met with the Governor to request an Executive Order providing medical liability protections for physicians during the declared state of emergency.
- Joined the AMA and more than 100 medical societies in **sending a letter** urging the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to provide more financial relief for

physician practices.

- Helped craft a letter from the Big 4 Medical Societies (Florida, California, Texas, and New York) outlining our priorities in the federal COVID-19 legislation, which was sent to our congressional delegation.
- Continuing to work with our federal lobbyists, member organizations, and other state medical societies to gather intel and coordinate advocacy related to COVID-19.
- Monitoring guidance from CMS and seeking policy guidance and clarification as needed.

The FMA is a Resource

The FMA has been a trusted resource for physicians in navigating the complicated changes to medical payments and regulation. All of the following resources can be found on the **FMA Coronavirus Resource Center page**.

- Summary of **Surgeon General Emergency Order 20-002**
- Summary of **H.R. 6201 – Families First Coronavirus Response Act**
- Updated summary of **H.R. 6201 to include effective date**,



*"The ills of today must not cloud
the horizons of tomorrow."
—William Mayo, M.D.*

eligibility and reimbursement provisions

- **Clarification of Executive Order 20-72**
- **Optional document for membership** certifying compliance with Executive Order 20-72
- Summary of **Executive Order 20-91, the "Safer at Home" Order**
- Summary of the **CMS waiver on telehealth flexibility for Medicare**
- Summary of **CMS flexibility related to the 2019 MIPS program**
- Summary of the **Medicare advance payment program**
- Top line **summary of the CARES Act, complete with resource guide**
- Summary of **medical liability protections in Florida law**
- Summary of **medical liability protections in federal law, including the new provision in the CARES Act**
- Compiled and continue to update a list of **payor resources related to COVID-19**, including guidance from CMS and private payors
- Closely monitoring the CARES Act and providing guidance on funding and loan provisions

The FMA is a Leader

The FMA has been a leader in providing telehealth resources so that physicians can continue seeing patients while keeping themselves and their patients safe. We are:

- **Providing resources through the Telehealth Initiative** to assist practices in quickly and efficiently implementing telehealth platforms.
- Vetting telehealth vendors.
- Advocating for expanded payment parity for telehealth visits.

The FMA is Available

The FMA is available to help our members with payment, legal, and regulatory issues, whether related to COVID-19 or not.

- Email questions to membership@flmedical.org.
- Call the FMA at **(850) 224-6496** or **(800) 762-0233**.
- We also offer many resources on our website: FLmedical.org.
- Look for updates on our **Facebook** and **Twitter** platforms and in FMA News every Thursday.

