



Wisconsin Medical Society

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Wisconsin Medical Society directors endorse health care reform principles

MADISON—With the tremendous focus on health care reform and its subsequent effect on Wisconsin patients, the Wisconsin Medical Society Board of Directors endorsed a set of health care reform principles at its meeting on Saturday in Madison.

The principles address several key issues related to health care reform and reaffirm the Society's commitment to improving health insurance coverage and health care access so that patients receive timely, high quality care, preventive services, medications and other necessary treatments. They also caution that any repeal of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) should not happen without a comprehensive replacement plan to ensure that those who are currently insured do not lose coverage.

“It will be critical that patients, physicians, and states have a real transition period before new reforms are implemented as quick and rash actions can have unforeseen consequences,” the document states.

The principles support maintaining some of the patient protections encompassed in the ACA, including guaranteed coverage for pre-existing conditions, the ability for children to remain on their parent's insurance plans until age 26, and the ban on lifetime caps for coverage.

The principles also call for adequate Medicaid funding and that any reform to Medicaid and Medicare ensure the programs are “viable and effective mechanisms to provide health insurance coverage to low-income individuals, seniors and the disabled.”

“By adhering to these principles, the physician members of the Wisconsin Medical Society will advocate to improve upon the framework implemented under the ACA, and we will work closely with elected officials at the state and federal levels to ensure that future reforms benefit and improve the health of the patients of Wisconsin,” said Society President Barbara Hummel, MD.

Click [here](#) to access the principles.

With over 12,500 members dedicated to the best interests of their patients, the [Wisconsin Medical Society](#) is the largest association of medical doctors in the state and a trusted source for health policy leadership since 1841.