



## Prior Authorization Exemption



Prior authorization of health care services continues to be a burden and a barrier to physicians providing the care their patients need. KMA supports legislation that requires health benefit plan issuers to "gold card" certain physicians from prior authorization by creating an automatic approval or exemption, on a physician-by-physician basis, that waives prior authorization requirements if that physician is approved for a specific procedure/service most of the time.

## Healthcare Workforce



Healthcare workforce shortage issues have plagued our state for years, which have been exacerbated by COVID. KMA will work with relevant stakeholders, including the Kentucky Hospital Association, and members of the Kentucky General Assembly to address the issue with long-term policy solutions. KMA efforts will specifically focus on initiatives that raise awareness regarding physician wellness and career fatigue, provide financial incentives to attract and retain physicians to the Commonwealth, and address the state's broken liability system.

## Other Issues of Interest

Additionally, KMA will closely monitor and take appropriate action regarding other issues of interest to the physician community, including scope of practice, marijuana legalization, and vaccination exemptions.

## Compassionate Patient Support



Pursuant to the 21st Century Cures Act, providers must deliver complete and immediate data to patients in a common language that can be used with apps and other EMRs. As a result, patients will be able to view results often before providers see them. Barring a permissible exception, failure to provide such data is considered "information blocking" and can result in fines. One permissible exception under the federal law allows providers to hold information when it could cause **physical** harm to the patient. However, state-based legislation is needed that allows providers to temporarily delay the delivery of certain patient test/lab results if providers believe the receipt of such results by the patient prior to provider counseling would cause **emotional** harm.

## Lung Health



Kentucky has long struggled with diseases and illnesses associated with poor lung health, including adult influenza, pneumococcal disease, and cancer. For example, according to the American Lung Association's 2021 "State of Lung Cancer" report, Kentucky has the highest incidence rate of lung cancer in the United States. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention also consistently has Kentucky at the top of the list in lung cancer deaths. KMA will promote policy solutions that raise awareness regarding lung health issues and that are designed to improve lung health outcomes for all Kentuckians, especially those who live in underserved areas of the state.



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