

2023 KMA HOUSE OF DELEGATES – ACTION PLAN

01: REPORT ON SUNSETTING POLICY – All Policies Reaffirmed

- Report filed.

02: 2023-1 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO SEPARATE THE OFFICE OF SECRETARY-TREASURER (KMA Board of Trustees) – Adopted

See original resolution.

- Constitution Amended

03: 2023-2 BYLAWS AMENDMENTS TO SEPARATE THE DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY-TREASURER (KMA Board of Trustees) – Adopted

See original resolution.

- Bylaws Amended

04: 2023-3 BYLAWS AMENDMENT TO UPDATE KMA'S PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY (KMA Board of Trustees) – Adopted

See original resolution.

- Bylaws Amended

05: 2023-4 WATER SAFETY IN CHILDREN (Maggie Stull - MSS) – Adopted as Amended

A: KMA encourages expanding water safety techniques, including but not limited to child(ren) engagement in swimming lessons, promotion of the use of fences around pools, and direct supervision of children around water by a responsible individual.

- Added to Policy Manual
- KMA shared water safety tips through posts across various social media platforms in the summer of 2024

06: 2023-5 CAUTION IN PEDIATRIC USE OF MELATONIN (Margo Nelis, Michael Nichols, and Maggie Stull - MSS) – Adopted as Amended

A: KMA encourage caution in consumption of melatonin in pediatric populations

- Added to Policy Manual
- KMA cautioned the public against the use of melatonin in children through posts across various social media platforms in the summer of 2024

B: KMA promotes physician-led education to caregivers regarding pediatric use of melatonin.

- Added to Policy Manual

07: 2023-6 INCREASING SKIN CANCER PREVENTION THROUGH SPF 30+ UVA/UVB UTILIZATION (Lisa Anakwenze, MPH, MS and Onajia Stubblefield, MS - MSS) – Adopted as Amended

A: KMA encourages physicians to educate patients on how to conduct self-skin checks

- Added to Policy Manual

B: KMA encourages patients utilize waterproof, broad spectrum (UVA/UVB) sunscreen, with an SPF minimum of 30 on sun exposed areas

- Added to Policy Manual
- KMA encouraged the public to use sunscreen with a minimum of 30 SPF through posts across various social media platforms in the summer of 2024

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C: KMA encourages patients wear long sleeves, pants, and hats with a wide brim to reduce sun exposure along with not using tanning beds.

- Added to Policy Manual

D: KMA supports and encourages increased full body skin examinations and screenings.

- Added to Policy Manual

E: KMA supports and advocates for programs that provide free sunscreen that are SPF minimum of 30, waterproof, and broad spectrum (UVA/UVB) coverage directly to physicians to distribute to patients.

- Added to Policy Manual

08: 2023-7 EATING DISORDERS AND WEIGHT STIGMA IN KENTUCKY (Zubi Suleman, MD, DFAPA, Hannah Fitterman-Harris PhD, and Cheri A. Levinson, PhD) – Adopted as Amended

A: KMA support efforts to educate relevant healthcare professionals and the public regarding the frequency and severity of eating disorders and weight stigma.

- Added to Policy Manual
- A 2-part educational series was offered February 22 and 27, 2024. Resources posted on KMA website.

B: KMA support evidence based the removal of insurance-related barriers designed to deny or restrict healthcare treatment for eating disorders and the removal of insurance barriers designed to deny or restrict that treatment, including BMI-based criteria (cutoffs) for treatment coverage.

- Added to Policy Manual

09: 2023-8 PHYSICIANS' MORAL INJURY (GLMS) – Adopted as Amended

A: KMA promotes technological solutions (such as streamlined EMRs), reduce administrative burdens (such as telemedicine to improve workflow, less clerical work, prior authorizations), support modified work schedules (flexible work schedules and time banking, residency work hour restrictions) and encourage self-care (supporting mental health services, instituting medical school self-care curriculum) to help stop moral injury amongst physicians.

- Added to Policy Manual

B: KMA continue to study moral injury and partner with key stakeholders and the General Assembly to implement practices that will decrease the rate of physicians' moral injury in the Commonwealth.

- Added to Policy Manual
- KMA exploring legislative and regulatory changes with the General Assembly and appropriate Executive Branch agencies, e.g., Department of Insurance and Department of Medicaid Services, that eliminate stigmatizing language in healthcare credentialing processes and licensure application/renewal forms that ask physicians about prior mental, emotional, and/or physical health.
- To reduce burdensome administrative obstacles, KMA made prior authorization a top legislative priority during the 2024 legislative session by supporting HB317/SB270.

10: 2023-9 SUPPORT FOR EDUCATION ON PUBERTY AND MENSTRUATION (Danielle Graves and Juliana Cobb, MS - MSS) – Adopted as Amended

A: To ensure that proper elementary school health education in schools should include teaching on the typical course of puberty in adolescents including education on menstruation, that our KMA amend current policy (resolution 2017-23) to the following:

- KMA supports the AMA policy to oppose the sole use of abstinence only education by providing information about condoms, birth control, and other means of preventing pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.
- KMA supports age-appropriate anticipatory education related to menstruation and puberty for elementary school students.

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- KMA supports age-appropriate sexual education in schools to include information on sexual assault, consent communication, and dating violence prevention.
- KMA supports age-appropriate sexual education in schools to include reference to non-traditional (LGBTQIA) practices for safe sex, in the interests of equality and prevention of sexually transmitted disease.
- KMA will work with appropriate agencies, including but not limited to the public-school system, to ensure that sex education is age-appropriate, evidence-based, led by well-trained individuals, and subject to periodic evaluation and improvement. (Res 2017-23, 2017 HOD)

- Updated Policy Manual

- KMA encouraged puberty and menstruation education to reduce stigma through posts across various social media platforms in the summer of 2024

11: 2023-11 IMPROVING REPRESENTATION OF SKIN OF COLOR (SOC) IN MEDICAL EDUCATION (Margo Nelis, Michael Nichols, Armin Razavi, and Maggie Stull - MSS) – Adopted

A: KMA encourages and supports expanding representation of darker skin tones in medical education, especially in printed texts/textbooks.

- Added to Policy Manual

12: 2023-12 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (LMS) – Adopted

A: KMA monitors and informs health care providers on the development and use of artificial intelligence in the practice of medicine.

- Added to Policy Manual
- Education on artificial intelligence is being planned for 2024 KMA Annual Meeting.

13: 2023-13 PROTECTION OF COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES IN OB/GYN RESIDENT EDUCATION (Margo Nelis, and Armin Razavi - MSS) – Adopted as Amended

A: KMA supports the protection of OB/GYN residents in Kentucky to have comprehensive education and training in obstetrics and gynecology.

- Added to Policy Manual

14: 2023-14 ACCESS TO ABORTION-INDUCING MEDICATIONS FOR WOMEN WITH LIFE-THREATENING PREGNANCIES (Monalisa Taylor, MD) – Adopted as Amended

A: KMA advocate for revisions to relevant state statutes that restrict access to abortion-inducing medications for women who experience underlying medical conditions concurrently with life-threatening pregnancies.

- Added to Policy Manual
- KMA monitored legislation introduced during the 2024 legislative session, HB428, that would have repealed state statutes that restrict access to abortion-inducing medications that could be prescribed for women who experience underlying medical conditions concurrently with life-threatening pregnancies.

15: 2023-16 IMPROVING MENTAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES FOR POST-PARTUM MOTHERS (Margo Nelis, Morgan Sydnor, and Maggie Stull - MSS) – Adopted

A: KMA supports improvements in mental health care services for the postpartum period to improve maternal and infant health outcomes.

- Added to Policy Manual

B: KMA supports advocating for funding of programs that aid postpartum depression research.

- Added to Policy Manual

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- During the 2024 legislative session, KMA supported passage of HB10, legislation that addresses maternal and infant health, including post-partum mental health issues.

16: 2023-17 ANTI-OBESITY MEDICATIONS (Monalisa Taylor, MD) – Adopted as Amended

A: KMA support the use of anti-obesity medications in treating patients with obesity if they are safe, effective and have a sustained impact with lifestyle modifications.

- Added to Policy Manual

B: KMA advocate for better access to anti-obesity medications for all patients appropriately prescribed those medications.

- Added to Policy Manual
- KMA monitored legislation introduced during the 2024 legislative session, HB273, that would have required the Department for Medicaid Services and any Medicaid managed care organization to provide comprehensive coverage for the treatment of obesity.

17: 2023-19 BAN OVER-THE-COUNTER KRATOM SALES (Monalisa Taylor, MD) – Adopted as Amended

A: KMA support a ban on over-the-counter sales of Kratom in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

- Added to Policy Manual
- During the 2024 legislative session, KMA’s advocacy efforts included work on HB293, legislation enacted to regulate kratom by prohibiting sales to people under 21 and providing guidelines for manufacturing and labeling the product.

B: KMA support increased education regarding the misuse and negative health effects of Kratom.

- Added to Policy Manual

18: 2023-20 PHARMACIST COLLABORATION (LMS) – Adopted as Amended

A: KMA work with the Kentucky Board of Pharmacy encouraging communication between pharmacists and physicians to resolve concerns regarding the indication, dosing, or quantity dispensed of a particular medication.

- Added to Policy Manual
- KMA engaged in several conversations with the Kentucky Pharmacists Association on various issues related to the indication, dosing, or quantity dispensed of a particular medication and the role of pharmacists within the physician-led, team-based care model.

19: 2023-21 NATIONAL TORT REFORM (LMS) – Adopted

A: KMA formally advocates for a national cap on non-economic damages stemming from medical liability claims and solicit congressional support for such improvement in the medical practice environment.

- Added to Policy Manual

20: 2023-22 PRIOR AUTHORIZATION (KMA Board of Trustees) – Adopted

A: KMA utilize Department of Medicaid Services data that is received annually from Medicaid managed care organizations (MCOs) to:

- seek greater enforcement of current prior authorization statutes, regulations, and MCO contractual provisions by the appropriate state agencies; and
- support state and federal legislation that establishes a prior authorization exemption program designed to automatically waive prior authorization requirements for physicians who have historically been approved for a specific procedure, service, or medication most of the time.

- Added to Policy Manual

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- Prior authorization, including the establishment of a prior authorization exemption program, was KMA's top legislative priority for the 2024 legislative session. Efforts included support for two pieces of legislation introduced during the session, HB317 and SB270.

21: 2023-23 PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE (KMA Board of Trustees) – Adopted

A: KMA supports medical education loan repayment programs as a physician recruitment tool and encourages the development of state and federal loan repayment initiatives to address the critical physician workforce and access to care issues plaguing the state.

- Added to Policy Manual

B: KMA advocate for state budget appropriations designated to create new and expand existing Graduate Medical Education slots in Kentucky.

- Added to Policy Manual
- KMA participated in multiple meetings with relevant stakeholders to promote efforts to appropriate significant state monies to expanding existing and creating new residency programs in Kentucky. Discussions are ongoing.

22: 2023-24 PREVENTION OF MEDICAL LIABILITY FOR VOLUNTEER PHYSICIANS (LMS) – Adopted as Amended

A: KMA supports physicians volunteering their services to provide medical care within their communities.

- Added to Policy Manual

B: KMA supports legislation to extend immunity to medical liability to physicians engaged in providing voluntary health care.

- Added to Policy Manual

23: 2023-25 SUPPORT FOR AUTONOMY FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES UNDER CONSERVATORSHIP (Danielle Graves and Janki Naidugari - MSS) – Referred to the Board of Trustees

A: KMA support (1) autonomy through least restrictive conservatorship options for adults with disabilities and (2) increasing access to guardianship hearings for persons under conservatorship including notifying persons under conservatorship of their option to pursue Restoration of Rights.

24: 2023-26 MEMORIAL TO RONALD E. WALDRIDGE, II, MD (KMA Board of Trustees) – Adopted

A: KMA House of Delegates recognize the outstanding contributions made by Ronald E. Waldrige, II, M.D. to the practice of medicine within the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

B: KMA House of Delegates, individually and collectively, hereby extend their most profound sympathy upon the passing of Ronald E. Waldrige, II, M.D on November 15, 2022, and extend heartfelt condolences to his family, friends, and his esteemed colleagues.

C: In gratitude for Doctor Waldrige's contributions and extraordinary service to his patients, profession, and state, this resolution be made a permanent part of the records of this Association

- Resolution Filed

25: REPORT KMA GUN VIOLENCE AND FIREARM SAFETY WORK GROUP REPORT TO THE 2023 KMA HOUSE OF DELEGATES (Gun Violence and Firearm Safety Work Group) – Recommendations Adopted as Amended

A: KMA acknowledges that firearm related death and injury is a public health concern for the citizens of Kentucky, (Reaffirm KMA Resolution 2017-21, 2017 House of Delegates).

- Added to Policy Manual and Reaffirmed Resolution 2017-21, 2017 HOD

B: KMA and its members encourage, support, and promote high-quality, evidence-based research related to safe gun ownership and firearm use and safety practices.

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- Added to Policy Manual

C: KMA support and encourage collaborative evidence-based strategies and programming addressing community interpersonal violence.

- Added to Policy Manual

D: KMA works with state and local legislators to establish evidence-based policies that promote safe firearm ownership and use.

- Added to Policy Manual
- During the 2024 legislative session, KMA supported efforts to enact SB13, legislation that included provisions regarding the temporary transfer of firearms away from individuals on the brink of crisis as well as other key provisions contained with the Crisis Aversion and Rights Retention Act introduced in previous legislative sessions.

E: KMA support legislation during 2024 Kentucky legislative session that would allow for the temporary transfer of firearms away from people on the brink of crisis, like that of the Crisis Aversion and Rights Retention Act introduced during the 2022 session.

- Added to Policy Manual
- During the 2024 legislative session, KMA supported efforts to enact SB13, legislation that included provisions regarding the temporary transfer of firearms away from individuals on the brink of crisis as well as other key provisions contained with the Crisis Aversion and Rights Retention Act introduced in previous legislative sessions.

F: KMA works with the appropriate stakeholders to educate the public on the rate of accidental firearm-related injuries, deaths, and suicides in Kentucky's pediatric population.

- Added to Policy Manual

G: KMA partner with relevant organizations to offer continuing medical education regarding effective patient communication about gun violence and firearm safety.

- Added to Policy Manual

H: KMA House of Delegates vote to reaffirm the work group for the 2024 annual year, to meet on a case-by-case basis, but no less than semi-annually, and provide support and insight, as the organization carries out the education and policy recommendations aforementioned.

- Added to Policy Manual
- Report Filed
- The KMA Gun Violence and Firearm Safety Work Group continues to meet as directed by the House of Delegates.

26: 2023-32 PROMOTE SCREENING AND PATIENT EDUCATION FOR GUN SAFETY IN THE HOME (GLMS) – Adopted as Amended

A: KMA advocates for screening during medical visits for presence of guns in the household and educate for safe storage of firearms.

- Added to Policy Manual
- The KMA Gun Violence and Firearm Safety Work Group discussed physician education on screening for guns in homes and safe storage. KMA is looking at providing CME on this subject.

27: 2023-34 ENACT LEGISLATION TO PROTECT KENTUCKY SCHOOLCHILDREN, CITIZENS, AND POLICE OFFICERS FROM GUN VIOLENCE AND MASS SHOOTINGS (GLMS) – Referred to the KMA Gun Violence and Firearm Safety Work Group for Further Consideration

A: That to protect our schoolchildren, citizens and police officers from mass shootings and gun violence, the KMA join America's principal medical, public health, and police organizations¹⁻⁴ in citing gun violence as a public health crisis, and calling for and supporting the following legislation:

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1. A ban of assault (semi-automatic) weapons and killing enhancement features, including high-capacity magazines, rapid-fire increasers (e.g. “bump stocks”), silencers, and guns without serial numbers (e.g. “ghost” and 3-D printed guns).
 2. Require background checks without loopholes, plus waiting periods and safety training on all firearm transfers (store, internet, gun-show purchases, lending and gifts).
 3. Establish Extreme Risk Protective Orders (“Red Flag” laws) to disarm persons who pose risks of gun violence to self or others.
- The KMA Gun Violence and Firearm Safety Work Group continues to meet as directed by the House of Delegates and discuss any updates related to the issues stated above.

28: 2023-35 REPEAL KENTUCKY STATE LAWS THAT PROHIBIT PREVENTION OF MASS SHOOTINGS AND GUN VIOLENCE, AND THUS ENDANGER OUR SCHOOLCHILDREN, CITIZENS AND POLICE (GLMS) – Referred to the KMA Gun Violence and Firearm Safety Work Group for Further Consideration

A: KMA join America’s principal medical, public health, and police officer organizations¹⁻⁴ to protect the health and safety of our schoolchildren, citizens and police officers by calling for and supporting repeal of KRS 65.870, which prohibits local community governments from enacting gun violence control laws to protect their local citizens.

- The KMA Gun Violence and Firearm Safety Work Group continues to meet as directed by the House of Delegates and discuss any updates related to the issues stated above.

B: KMA calls for and supports repeal of 2023 HB 153 (the so-called “2nd Amendment Sanctuary law”) that prohibits enforcements of federal gun violence control measures in our state.

- The KMA Gun Violence and Firearm Safety Work Group continues to meet as directed by the House of Delegates and discuss any updates related to the issues stated above.