

## Officers

President  
**Anna M. McMaster, MD, Napoleon**

Immediate Past President  
**Stanley R. Anderson, MD, North Canton**

President-Elect  
**Michael Sevilla, MD, Salem**

Vice President  
**Teresa W. Zryd, MD, Beavercreek**

Treasurer  
**Wayne A. Forde, MD, Solon**

Speaker  
**Doug W. Harley, DO, Akron**

Vice Speaker  
**Kathleen Meehan-de la Cruz, MD, Norwalk**

Executive Vice President  
**Ann M. Spicer, Columbus**

## Delegates

AAFP Delegate  
**Sarah L. Sams, MD, Grove City**

AAFP Delegate  
**Renee L. Markovich, MD, Akron**

AAFP Alternate Delegate  
**Ryan D. Kauffman, MD, Bellefontaine**

AAFP Alternate Delegate  
**Elisabeth L. Righter, MD, Dayton**

OSMA Delegate  
**Jeffrey A. Harwood, MD, New London**

OSMA Alternate Delegate  
**Julie Marcinek, DO, Bexley**

## Ex Officio

AAFP President-Elect  
**Gary L. LeRoy, MD, Dayton**

Resident, AAFP Board of Directors  
**Kelly Thibert, DO, Columbus**

## Regional Directors

Central Region  
**Bryan W. Ghiloni, MD, Gahanna**

East Central Region  
**John A. DiSabato, MD, Stow**

Northeast Region  
**Vacant**

Northwest Region  
**Mary Wonderly, MD, Fremont**

Southeast Region  
**Stephen C. Ulrich, MD, New Lexington**

Southwest Region  
**Manoj Singh, MD, West Chester**

West Central Region  
**Vacant**

## At-Large Directors

**Roma Amin, MD, Columbus**

**Brian L. Bachelder, MD, Akron**

**Jaividhya Dasarathy, MD, Cleveland**

**Mark A. McLoney, MD, Middleburg Heights**

**Catherine E. Romanos, MD, Columbus**

## Residents

**Kelsey R. Murray, MD, Columbus**

**Darian L. Roberts, MD, Columbus**

## Students

**Haley Coleman, Hudson**

**Shaina Rood, Chagrin Falls**

June 29, 2020

Maureen Corcoran, Director  
Ohio Department of Medicaid  
50 W. Town Street, Suite 400  
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Director Corcoran:

Thank you for all you've done to address the COVID-19 pandemic here in Ohio. Because of your swift action to allow our Medicaid program additional flexibility during this crisis, countless lives have been saved. Now, with cases of COVID-19 on the upswing in Ohio and around the nation, additional action is needed to ensure that our state Medicaid program is best positioned to provide access to care in the most appropriate and timely manner. The Ohio Academy of Family Physicians, which represents 5,200 family physicians and medical students in our state, requests that you take additional steps to ensure the Ohio Department of Medicaid is well equipped to support patients, physicians, and other providers during these uncertain times by allowing managed care companies added flexibilities in payments to physicians and other providers.

Nearly two-thirds of family physicians accept new Medicaid patients; these vulnerable populations are clustered disproportionately in underserved areas, including both urban and rural areas. Plummeting utilization rates of health care services because of the pandemic paired with expanded Medicaid eligibility due to the accompanying increase in job losses have introduced significant uncertainty for both the physicians who treat these patients and Medicaid care plans that finance their services. A recent study of primary care practices paints a dire picture of the financial situation facing primary care practices – over half of physician respondents simply desire “payment of any kind.”<sup>1</sup>

The same survey found half of all practices supportive of consistent payments to ensure practice viability and sustainability. To that end, it is critical that Ohio Medicaid take action to increase provider payments to fully support these physicians looking to provide quality care to their patients. Recently, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services released new guidance for states looking to temporarily enhance provider payment in managed care arrangements. The Ohio Academy of Family Physicians encourages the Ohio Department of Medicaid to direct managed care organizations to increase provider payments

---

<sup>1</sup> Primary Care Collaborative,  
[https://www.pccpc.org/sites/default/files/news\\_files/C19%20Series%2010%20National%20Executive%20Summary%20with%20comments.pdf](https://www.pccpc.org/sites/default/files/news_files/C19%20Series%2010%20National%20Executive%20Summary%20with%20comments.pdf)

to help stabilize these vulnerable practices and ensure our patients' access to care during this state of emergency.

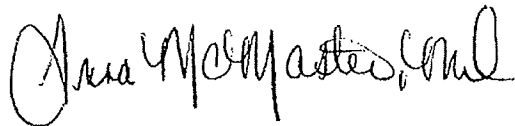
Furthermore, the Ohio Academy of Family Physician calls on the Ohio Department of Medicaid to adopt existing authority to:

- Increase managed care capitation rates to match increased fee-for-service (FFS) provider payments. Many states have used the disaster state plan amendment (SPA) process to temporarily increase Medicaid FFS provider payments. Managed care capitation rates should follow.

The Ohio Academy of Family Physicians urges you to take these steps to ensure that physicians have the financial certainty to ensure that their patients have continued access to care. Your action will ensure that our physicians have the means necessary to take care of some of our state's most vulnerable populations. We urge the Ohio Department of Medicaid to take immediate action. Please contact our Executive Vice President Ann Spicer at [aspicer@ohioafp.org](mailto:aspicer@ohioafp.org) with any questions you may have.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anna McMaster, MD". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Anna McMaster, MD  
President