



American College of
Preventive Medicine
Principles of Health Reform

The American College of Preventive Medicine (ACPM) has long advocated for a comprehensive and accessible healthcare system that focuses on prevention. As healthcare policy discussions continue in Congress, ACPM is committed to advocating for a system that prioritizes evidence-based prevention interventions that will improve the health of all Americans. ACPM's recommendations for healthcare legislation are as follows.

Any healthcare legislation must:

1. Maximize healthcare coverage through insurance or government-delivered programs;
2. Retain established current patient protections, including:
 - a. Prohibiting exclusions for pre-existing conditions and restrictions and transparency on policy rescissions;
 - b. Prohibiting benefit caps, annual, and lifetime expenditure limits;
 - c. Retaining a core set of essential health benefits plans are required to offer;
 - d. Limiting premium price differentials; and
 - e. Allowing children to be covered on their parents' plans until age 26.
3. Ensure a viable safety net that includes the appropriate resourcing of and eligibility for Medicaid, Medicare and the Children's Health Insurance Programs;
4. Ensure patient protections in the insurance marketplace that encourage equitable access to healthcare services, through existing and transformative healthcare system design.
 - a. Individual insurance mandates, employer-sponsored insurance mandates or automatic enrollment in publicly funded plans, or some combination of these;
 - b. Premium assistance; and
 - c. Reductions and limits in patient out-of-pocket payments;
5. Require insurers to provide adequate network size and improve transparency for providers and patients;
6. Improve access to preventive care by requiring all insurance products to provide first-dollar coverage for clinical preventive services recommended by the United States Preventive Services Task Force, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, the Women's Preventive Services Initiatives, or Bright Futures;
7. Provide sufficient funding for public health and other essential medical services to include preventive services, mental health services and substance use disorder treatment;
8. Retain any current funding dedicated to prevention, such as the Prevention and Public Health Fund; and
9. Include funding to address the current shortage of preventive medicine physicians by increasing support for residency programs.

ACPM stands ready to support plans that improve our nation's health care system. ACPM will continue to work diligently to improve and expand disease prevention and health promotion in future legislation.