

This is Preventive Medicine

FACT SHEET

The Challenges We Face

Today, our healthcare system is burdened with rising costs, and the health of the nation is threatened by the ongoing rise in chronic illnesses, emerging infectious diseases, the substance-use disorder epidemic, and the long-lasting impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Prescription for a Healthier Nation: Preventive Medicine

Preventive medicine is an essential medical specialty dedicated to preventing disease, disability, and death by promoting health and well-being in patients, communities, and populations.

Preventive medicine physicians practice at the intersection of public health and clinical care and play a role in all aspects of our nation's health and the healthcare system – from hospitals and health clinics to corporate board rooms and halls of government.

The Impact of Preventive Medicine

- Improves the health of individuals, families, and communities by tackling the toughest public health challenges.
- Prevents disease and promotes health – delivering care more efficiently, effectively and affordably.
- Brings experience and expertise to inform meaningful and scalable changes.
- Bridges public health experience in epidemiology and biostatistics with clinical expertise to inform key health care initiatives for whole populations.
- Drives policies to improve the health of communities, including mitigation and prevention strategies for future pandemics.
- Helps build a broader understanding of population health and collaborative leadership.
- Prepares physicians to tackle social determinants of health.
- Embraces and leverages the diversity of the field to better reflect and serve populations who are often historically excluded and/or marginalized.



Where is Preventive Medicine Practiced?

Preventive medicine physicians can be found in diverse settings: within individual physician practices and throughout large systems, as well as in departments of health, industry, academia, and all levels of government. In all settings in which preventive medicine physicians practice, they are changing population health for the better.

This is Preventive Medicine

Preventive medicine is the key to solving many of the greatest challenges facing healthcare today.

The American College of Preventive Medicine (ACPM) is the professional home for physicians whose focus is on prevention. ACPM equips members with the knowledge, resources, and networks to build healthier communities and transform the healthcare system to improve lives, ensure equitable and optimal health for all, change policies for the better, reshape models and systems, and create opportunities for future leaders in healthcare to continue to prove that prevention is the best medicine.



American College of Preventive Medicine
physicians dedicated to prevention

For more information, visit
acpm.org