



Medicaid Payment for Primary Care Talking Points

- Inadequate Medicaid reimbursement makes it more challenging for family physicians to accept more Medicaid patients.
 - This is especially true for small practices.
 - Low Medicaid reimbursement threatens the viability of practices that serve areas with a higher proportion of Medicaid coverage.
- On average, Medicaid pays just 66% of what Medicare pays for primary care services [or insert state-specific statistic found on the Medicaid payment backgrounder].
- The pay disparity between Medicaid and other payers further exacerbates the financial instability that primary care practices, especially those in rural and underserved communities, are facing due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Medicaid enrollment has increased by 8 million due to COVID-related job losses, which in turn has increased the demand for primary care services.
- Congress must act to increase Medicaid payment rates to at least Medicare levels in order to increase Medicaid enrollees' access to primary care and ensure that primary care clinicians have adequate resources to meet their often complex needs.
- Health care coverage does not guarantee health care access. Any efforts to expand Medicaid coverage must also address physician reimbursement to ensure that enrollees can find a primary care physician and receive timely care.
- **[For Representatives] Please co-sponsor the Kids Access to Primary Care Act (H.R. 1025).**
- **[For Senators] Please co-sponsor the Ensuring Access to Primary Care for Women and Children Act (S.1833)**