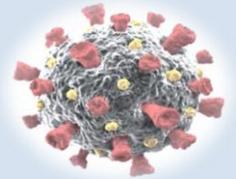


## 2021–2022 State and Federal Legislative Advocacy Agenda

The HAP Board identifies the following policy goals and includes examples of initiatives that fall within these categories. Not all initiatives must be achieved in the two-year legislative sessions.

### COVID-19 Advocacy

- Dedicating state and federal funding to provide financial support to hospitals
- Retaining administrative flexibilities and waivers
- Securing COVID-19 related liability protections
- Providing appropriate payment for COVID-19-related care
- Ensuring hospitals have the resources they need, including PPE and testing supplies, and that equitable distribution of the vaccines occurs for Pennsylvania and for hospitals within Pennsylvania



### Priorities that Support Public Investment in the Health Care of the Future

- Advocate to protect and strengthen the Affordable Care Act's expansion of access to comprehensive, affordable health coverage, and preserve and enhance a robust commercial insurance marketplace
- Protect and expand where needed and practical, essential state and federal investments in health care and Medicaid payments in the 2021–2022 and 2022–2023 state budgets
- Protect the 340B Program from harmful proposals that would reduce the number of eligible providers and limit access to life-saving services for vulnerable patients; reverse payment policies undercutting the benefit of the program
- Embrace the pursuit of equity in health care by investing resources in underserved communities, enhance access to primary and specialty care, address social determinants of health, and other targeted goals such as reducing maternal mortality
- Strengthen investments and resources in innovative efforts to protect health care in rural Pennsylvania
- Engage federal policymakers in understanding and to support crucial hospital payments including Medicaid disproportionate share, addressing the harmful sequestration cuts, and ensuring appropriate payments in all sites of service
- Promote consistency in value-based payment (VBP) design and measurement efforts, as well as enhanced payor data sharing



## Initiatives to Provide the Right Care in the Right Place at the Right Time



- Advocate to address unreasonable payor policies and practices to reduce unnecessary provider burdens, which improves patient access to care
- Advocate for legislation, regulatory changes, and/or reimbursement necessary to alleviate boarding or holds and quickly connect patients to the most appropriate care
- Protect recent clinical and coverage gains in telemedicine advancements to improve patient access to Pennsylvania’s health care network
- Advocate for relief from regulatory and statutory burdens that thwart clinical integration and do not contribute to patient care
- Work with other stakeholders to achieve as many of the Behavioral Health Study recommendations from the Joint State Government Commission as feasible, and seek sufficient resources to serve behavioral health needs throughout the hospital delivery system
- Ensure clinical data and best practices are incorporated into policy proposals aimed at addressing the opioid epidemic
- Protect patients from surprise medical bills while rejecting rate setting and policies that interfere with private contractual negotiations and impose new requirements that are not meaningful to patients

## Efforts to Produce and Retain Needed Clinicians in Pennsylvania



- Support initiatives identified by the HAP Workforce Talent Task Force to develop a workforce pipeline necessary for the future needs of Pennsylvania’s health care
- Pursue policies that support and strengthen diversity, equity, and inclusion in the health care workforce
- Invest in the physician workforce by increasing the number of residency positions eligible for Medicare Graduate Medical Education (GME) and oppose reductions in funding for medical education
- Engage Pennsylvania’s clinician community to identify and pursue effective strategies for continual quality improvements to hospital and patient safety and employee satisfaction and wellness
- Modernize state and federal policy to allow clinicians to practice to the full extent of their training
- Achieve legal and medical liability reform, including but not limited to preventing enactment of a state false claims act, improving state informed consent law, and preserving the peer review protections intended by both state and federal law
- Oppose any change in the current venue rule which would result in a return to forum-shopping