

## August 2024 – MAFP News & Events

### Participate in Important Advocacy Survey

MAFP members are invited to participate in the Missouri Academy of Family Physicians survey on important advocacy issues to establish our policy on legislative and regulatory positions based on the opinions of our members.

Questions are on sensitive issues impacting family medicine, including legal termination of pregnancy, medical aid in dying, reparations, minor consent, gender-affirming care, etc. Keep in mind that your personal beliefs may differ from the position you wish MAFP to take. Your responses are kept confidential and reported in the aggregate to the MAFP leadership.

Please respond to the survey by August 12, 2024, so your opinion can help us form our position on policies and legislation. The Advocacy Commission and Board of Directors will prepare and review the results at our November 2024 meeting, which you are welcome to attend!

**Members should have received an email with the survey link, but you can contact [office@mo-afp.org](mailto:office@mo-afp.org) for access.**

### Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Their Long-Term Impact into Adulthood

**Virtual CME | August 22, 2024 | 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

The Missouri AFP is pleased to offer this FREE two-hour virtual session on August 22, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. Join Jay Lee, MD, MPH, FAAFP, as he shares his expertise to help family physicians recognize how ACEs may negatively impact pediatric growth and development. Techniques for ACEs screening will be discussed to increase your confidence in providing care to your patients. Lastly, since family physicians provide care through the full spectrum of life, he will explore ways to treat adults with a history of ACEs. 2 credits of prescribed CME will be awarded. Pre-registration is required – [click here to register](#).

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## Upcoming Virtual CME Sessions

**Next session is on August 15: “2023 CDC Update: HIV Positive Birthing Persons and the Provision of Human Milk” from Rebecca Aguayo, MD**

Members are encouraged to visit [www.mo-afp.org/cme-events/virtual-cme](http://www.mo-afp.org/cme-events/virtual-cme) to register for upcoming Virtual CME sessions and view information from the Virtual CME sessions that have already been delivered.

Upcoming sessions cover topics such as Artificial Intelligence, Value-Based Care, and Dermatology. Recorded sessions with videos and informational slides are available on previous sessions, including *MAFP 2024 Advocacy and Legislative Review*, *Harm Reduction Strategies for Patients with Opioid Use Disorder*, *Coronary CT in Chest Pain: A Paradigm Shift*, *A Comprehensive Guide to STD Management*, and *How Sick Are Your Patients? Reflecting Patient Disease Burden Using the HCC Risk Adjustment Model*.

Please be aware CME can only be claimed by those who pre-register and view these sessions Live.

## Register for MAFP 32nd Annual Fall Conference

Join us for MAFP’s Annual Fall Conference on November 8-9, 2024, at the Intercontinental Kansas City at the Plaza. We are thrilled to host this year’s conference at a new location and have prepared a schedule featuring excellent CME sessions, workshops, and networking opportunities. Don’t miss the optional procedures workshop, “OMT for All Physicians,” on November 7. Friday night will feature the FHFMM silent auction fundraiser and the MAFP Awards and Installation Dinner with “The Roaring 20s” theme– dress to impress! Early bird registration pricing is available until October 9. Learn more at [www.mo-afp.org/cme-events/annual-fall-conference/](http://www.mo-afp.org/cme-events/annual-fall-conference/).

## MAFP Family Medicine Mixers

All members and prospective members are invited to join us for MAFP’s Regional Family Medicine Mixers! These gatherings provide a chance to get out and have fun while connecting and networking with fellow family physicians in your community. Whether you’re within the region or beyond, you’re welcome to attend any of these events.

- **St. Louis – August 20th at 6:30 pm:** Trek through adventure at the St. Louis Zoo! Before the hike, we’ll gather for light snacks at a central location outside the zoo.
- **Jefferson City – September 10th at 6:00 pm:** Sip and savor at Canterbury Hill Winery in! Enjoy wine and a dinner on the patio overlooking the Missouri State Capitol.

Members, prospective members, and children under 13 years old can attend at no cost. Guests are invited to attend for a \$50 fee. [Register Here.](#)

## Pediatric Mental Health Resources Available

The American Academy of Pediatrics Mental Health Care Access ([PMHCA](#)) Technical Assistance (TA) Program provides technical assistance to primary care providers (PCPs) to support them in their management and care of mental health concerns in practice and to promote the use of local and regional PMHCA programs across the country. To learn more about or to register for the AAP Back to School Ready: Supporting Pediatric Mental Health ECHO, which meets weekly, [click here to learn more.](#)

## PMHCA Provider Survey – Available Now

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) needs your help! We are looking for pediatric providers to complete a survey to help us better understand children’s mental health care in pediatric primary care settings.

We are gathering insights related to your current mental health screening practices, resources used, and barriers or challenges faced; mental and behavioral health training needs; Pediatric Mental Health Care Access (PMHCA) program awareness, usage patterns, and barriers or challenges faced; and primary healthcare training needs. We will use this information to develop resources and implement technical assistance activities to support pediatric providers in promoting and addressing mental and relational health with children, adolescents, and families.

Completion of this survey is completely voluntary. You may refuse to answer any question for any reason, and you may stop at any time. Your individual responses will be anonymous and will not be attributed to any identifiable information you provide. We value all feedback.

**Provider Survey:** <https://stats.altarum.org/limesurvey/index.php/858532?lang=en>.

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## AAFP Commission Nominations Now Open

The AAFP commission nomination cycle for Active members is open until October 15. Active members are eligible to self-nominate for open positions on the AAFP’s eight commissions. More details about the commissions and the [online nomination system](#) are available until October 15. Your nomination requires a letter of support from the Missouri AFP, which will be submitted through the online nomination system. Questions about the process can be sent to [Kathy Pabst](#).

## AAFP Responds to 2025 MPFS Proposed Rule; Speak Out Today!

AAFP has issued a [statement](#) about the proposed rule for the [2025 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule](#). A few of the key takeaways include:

- The proposed conversion factor for CY 2025 is \$32.3562 which is a 2.8% reduction as compared to the 2024 conversion factor. This is due to expiring conversion factor relief enacted by Congress as well as budget neutrality adjustments.
- When taking into account expiring conversion factor relief, we estimate that the impact will be a 1.9% decrease in total allowed charges for family physicians.
  - Please note that the specialty impact table in the proposed rule estimates that family medicine will experience a 1% increase in total allowed charges, but this number *does not take into account* the expiring 2.9% CF relief because it occurs outside of budget neutrality.
- CMS accepted [AAFP's request](#) to allow payment for G2211 even when modifier 25 is appended to the accompanying office/outpatient evaluation and management (E/M) in certain instances. Beginning in 2025, on claims where modifier 25 is used to facilitate reporting a Medicare Annual Wellness Visit (AWV), vaccine administration, or Medicare Part B preventive services at the same encounter as the E/M service G2211 can also be paid.
- In addition, read *In the Trenches* to learn more about what the AAFP is already doing and add your voice to this [Speak Out campaign](#), a push to pass the Strengthening Medicare for Patients and Providers Act, a bill to ensure annual inflationary updates to Medicare payment based on the Medicare Economic Index.

To learn more about the proposed rule, here are the CMS links posted yesterday: [press release](#), [MPFS fact sheet](#), and [MSSP fact sheet](#).

## SURVEY REQUEST: Exploring Provider Attitudes Towards Digital Therapeutics in Healthcare Delivery

Participate in this 5-minute survey to support Odia Kane, PhD student/researcher at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. This survey addresses how primary care physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants think about the use of certain digital health tools when working with patients. The survey takes five minutes to complete and those who complete the survey will be eligible for a \$10 gift card. Survey link: [https://jh.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_56cwndnrQFmFU5gy](https://jh.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_56cwndnrQFmFU5gy).