

# MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK



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March 3, 2023

PAT CLANCY  
Senior Vice President  
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and Managing Director

Honorable Helene E. Weinstein  
Legislative Office Building, Rm 923  
Albany, NY 12248

ZINA CARY  
Vice President  
of Legislative Affairs

Dear Assemblymember Weinstein,

MICHAEL BARTLETT  
Associate Director for  
Legislation

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify at the February 28 hearing examining the Health/Mental Hygiene portion of the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Executive Budget. We welcome the opportunity for further discussions with you on the myriad of Budget issues that were reflected in our written and verbal testimony, as well as other steps that can be taken to improve patient health care access and quality.

MIRIAM HARDIN, PhD  
Manager, Continuing  
Education

With regard to the several questions posed to me regarding our serious concerns regarding the adverse patient care impact of proposals that would significantly expand the scope of practice for various non-physician health care providers, below are links to multiple studies that I referenced when questioned by Senator Liu, Senator Rhoads and Assemblymember Ra.

JENNIFER J. WILKS  
Coordinator for Grassroots  
and Political Action

MELISSA HOFFMAN, MPP  
Assistant Director of Public  
Health

EMILY RENTO  
Public Health Associate

- [Amid doctor shortage, NPs and PAs seemed like a fix. Data's in: Nope. |\(ama-assn.org\)](#) – which reported on 10 years of cost data on 33,000 patients served by one particular Accountable Care Organization (ACO). It found that care provided to patients exclusively by NPs and PAs was much more expensive than the care delivered by physicians. The study also found that these providers ordered more tests and referred more patients to specialists and hospital emergency departments than physicians did. Overall, the cost for care provided by non-physicians far exceeded the costs of physician-led care. The study also showed that care provided by non-physicians was of lower quality.

- [3-year study of NPs in the ED: Worse outcomes, higher costs |\(ama-assn.org\)](#) – which reported that Nurse practitioners (NPs) delivering emergency care without physician supervision or collaboration in the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) increase lengths of stay by 11% and raise 30-day preventable hospitalizations by 20% compared with emergency physicians.

Both of these studies highlight the significant risks to patients as well as the cost impact to our health care system with permitting unsupervised and uncoordinated care by various non-physicians. Let me be absolutely clear that PAs, NPs and pharmacists play absolutely essential roles in ensuring and expanding patient care delivery. However, given their more limited training they are not a substitute for the patient care services that can be provided by a skilled physician. It is imperative that we ensure appropriate physician collaboration and coordination of care that delivered by these various practitioners. In this regard, we again urge that these provisions of Part W be removed from the State Budget. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify at this hearing. Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul A. Pipia, MD". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "P".

**PAUL A. PIPIA, MD**  
**PRESIDENT-ELECT, MSSNY**