

REMOVE BARRIERS TO PRACTICE

COMMON SENSE APPROACH TO MANAGING HEALTHCARE

HOW DOES SOUTH CAROLINA BENEFIT?

DUTY: CARE, COMMITMENT, COSTS

Ensure patient care outcomes

Meet critical access needs for consumers

Reduce costs to taxpayers

INCREASED ACCESS TO CARE

Removing barriers enhances hospital systems, physicians, and Nurse Practitioners/Certified Nurse Midwives to enhance capabilities to increase access to health care, especially primary care, prenatal care, and mental health care.

REDUCED COSTS

By keeping patients out of the ER for primary and psychiatric care, this reduces costs to BC/BS and tax payers. The average ER visit nationwide is about \$1233. Nationwide, there is a 20% increase in ER visits; 65% of ER visits in 2014-2015 were for non-emergent issues. In SC 2014-2016, the top 15 reasons Medicaid beneficiaries sought the ER were for primary care complaints costing the state over 140 million dollars! Spending \$1233 for a UTI, STD, or upper respiratory infection is not an efficient way to manage health care, especially when a more affordable option is available for \$60 per visit by seeing a Nurse Practitioner or Certified Nurse Midwife.

INCREASED PSYCHIATRIC OUTPATIENT CARE

Psychiatric providers are scarce in SC. Some SC counties have NO mental health providers. Removing barriers to practice will allow psychiatric Nurse Practitioners to establish practices, manage patients in outpatient settings, and reduce Emergency Visits for mental health care.

IMPROVED PATIENT OUTCOMES

Studies show that Nurse Practitioners have excellent outcomes with chronic disease management and Certified Nurse Midwives reduce C-section rates, even in states that have collaboration and independent practice.

SAFE CARE

Studies show that NPs and CNMs are safe providers. There have been no patient safety issues with the elimination of the supervision. Physician groups contend that supervision ensures that APRNs make a correct diagnosis. However, a government study found that physicians misdiagnose 20% of the time.

TEAM BASED CARE

Team based care, while licensing health professionals as independent providers in collaboration with a health team, improves patient outcomes and ensures that each provider brings their unique contribution to the table, is accountable for their own practice, and removes liability from other professionals.

Who supports: Nurse Practitioners, Certified Nurse Midwives, Coalition for Access to Healthcare, SC Healthcare Association, AARP, Federally Qualified Healthcare Centers, Rural Health Centers, Agape Primary Care, Free Medical Clinics, Eau Claire Health Care Cooperative, Physicians Across the SC, South Carolina Nurses Association, American College of Gynecologists, Designated Legislators, SC Healthcare Association.

Who Opposes: South Carolina Medical Association, SC Academy of Family Practice

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