



Commission on Quality and Practice (CQP) 2026 Annual Report

Resident

Sheryl Fuehrer
Mayo Clinic Family Medicine
Rochester, MN
Class of 2026

Student

Molly Stegman
Penn State College of Medicine
State College, PA
Class of 2026

Purpose & Scope of Work

The Commission on Quality and Practice (CQP) works to improve the practice environment of family physicians. It directly supports the following AAFP strategic objectives: increase payment to reflect contribution; comprehensiveness of practice; reduce administrative complexity; help to optimize patient care via technology. The commission studies and develops recommendations, policies and programs for family medicine in areas such as administrative burden, scope of practice, and physician employment. Additionally, CQP provides oversight of several member interest groups (MIGs) such as the Direct Primary Care MIG, the Telehealth MIG, and the Hospital Medicine MIG.

Activities & Achievements

The Commission on Quality and Practice began its 2026 work during the Academy's Winter Cluster in January. During this session, commission members reviewed and voted on 10 resolutions addressing issues related to health information technology, physician payment, quality measurement, insurance practices, and access to care. Topics included anti-competitive electronic health record vendor practices, coding education resources, prescription drug adherence metrics, care for individuals experiencing homelessness, Medicare Advantage enrollment policies, Medicaid funding, physician licensing requirements, and Annual Wellness Visit payment. The commission also received updates on the AAFP Strategic Plan, physician recognition programs, member interest groups, and emerging AI policy considerations relevant to family medicine practice.

During its virtual spring meeting, the Commission on Quality and Practice participated in a joint meeting with the Commission on Membership and Member Services (CMMS) to discuss follow-up work on 2024 COD Resolution 204, Investigate Family Physicians Leaving the Workforce. The commission also discussed 2024 COD Resolution 302, Obtaining Evidence Regarding the Impact of Private Equity in the Delivery of Medical Care in the United States. In addition, members received updates on CPT/RUC activities, artificial intelligence initiatives, and diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts within family medicine.

Lessons Learned & Value of Serving on CQP

Resident: Sheryl Fuehrer

Serving as the resident appointee to the AAFP Commission on Quality and Practice offered a valuable opportunity to participate in discussions on many of the complex issues shaping the future of family medicine. The commission's work spans topics such as physician payment, quality measurement, health information technology, workforce challenges, and emerging issues like artificial intelligence. While these subjects can be nuanced and challenging, they are often at the forefront of changes that directly affect how we practice medicine. For example, discussions around AI focused not only on its potential benefits, but also on how the AAFP can help develop policies that support safe, practical, and patient-centered implementation. As a resident, I found that the commission genuinely values the resident perspective, recognizing that trainees and early-career physicians will be among those most affected by many of these evolving policies. I would encourage residents who are interested in health policy, advocacy, or the future direction of family medicine to apply.

Student: Molly Stegman

Serving on the Commission on Quality and Practice (CQP) has been a valuable experience as both a medical student and AAFP member. Having previously served on the Commission on Federal and State Policy, I gained a better understanding of how resolutions are assigned across commissions and the importance of having physicians and students with relevant interests review and refine policy proposals. I found it very interesting to see which resolutions are given to CQP for review compared to the ones I reviewed on CFSP.

Through my involvement in the AAFP Well-being Champion Program, I have become particularly interested in improving the practice environment for family physicians. Reviewing resolutions related to administrative burden, physician payment, scope of practice, and practice transformation reinforced the role policy plays in addressing challenges faced by family physicians. I felt encouraged to see the work the AAFP is doing to protect family medicine.

I encourage anyone interested in health policy, physician well-being, practice management, or scope of practice to apply. CQP offers a strong opportunity to learn about AAFP advocacy and the policy issues affecting family medicine and health care delivery.