

Stabilize: Near-Term Efforts Needed to Sustain Primary Care After COVID-19

Talking Points

- The U.S. primary care system is facing unprecedented challenges and, in many parts of the country, is on the verge of collapse due to a variety of factors but amplified by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Immediate financial support is needed to ensure that primary care remains viable throughout the pandemic and into the future.
- According to a recent survey about COVID-19's impact on primary care practices, half report they have laid off or furloughed staff, two-thirds report that less than half of what they do is reimbursable, and 45% are unsure if they have the funds to stay open for the next four weeks.
- To date, most financial relief efforts have not focused on primary care or the ambulatory health care delivery system.

Congress should ensure at least \$20 billion of Health Care Provider Relief Funds are specifically targeted to primary care physicians.

Congress should pass H.R. 6837/S. 3750 to reinstate the Medicare Accelerated and Advance payment program for Part B providers and improve the loan terms to ensure it is available to primary care providers in need.