

COVID-19 TOWN HALL Q&A – DECEMBER 2, 2020

QUESTION TOPIC INDEX <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy and Government Relations • Health of the Public and Science 	
<p align="center">Thank you for joining our informative discussion with David Tully, AAFP Director, Division of Government Relations.</p>	
MEMBER QUESTIONS	AAFP RESPONSES
ADVOCACY AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS	
How will the Provider Relief Funds in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act be distributed?	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 41-minute mark in the video replay .
Coverage doesn't necessarily mean access, so is the AAFP advocating for direct primary care models that focus on access? Is the AAFP advocating to deschedule cannabis by removing it from the Controlled Substances Act and educating family physicians about endocannabinoid medicine and the endocannabinoid system?	Both questions were answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the responses at the 40-minute mark in the video replay .
What are the AAFP's predictions if President-elect Biden is unable to complete his term?	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 48-minute mark in the video replay .
What is the chance that Congress does something impactful during the lame-duck session, especially around COVID-19?	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 49-minute mark in the video replay .
Why doesn't the AAFP have a seat on President-elect Biden's COVID-19 team?	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 51-minute mark in the video replay .
Will surgical specialists be able to change payments next year? According to an American Medical Association (AMA) estimate, the approved payment is a 13% increase.	Surgical specialists are aggressively pushing Congress to waive budget neutrality to address looming cuts and have pressed for a delay of implementation of January 1, 2021. Congress overwhelmingly supports the implementation of the fee schedule and is considering ways to provide targeted relief to physicians, but the challenge is the cost of making changes and precedence for future action by Congress. The AAFP and other primary care physician

	groups are pressing Congress to implement the fee schedule on January 1. Should they provide relief, it should not pick certain specialties over others.
HEALTH OF THE PUBLIC AND SCIENCE	
Will family physicians be first in line for the COVID-19 vaccine?	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 43-minute mark in the video replay .