



How Do Current Prior Authorization Practices Impact Pediatric Patient Care?

Steps Pennsylvania can take to prioritize the timely implementation of quality care

At present, prior authorization practices, which vary from insurer to insurer, delay pediatricians' ability to treat patients, and jeopardizes safe, timely care. This is time that patients cannot afford to lose. Delays in treatment and Pennsylvania's current prior authorization can keep patients from receiving timely health care and the treatments that their providers prescribed for them.

PA AAP supports SB 225 and urges PA legislators to do the same as it seeks to:

Establish a standard definition for prior authorization requirements



Improve efficiency in medical practices

Transition to an electronic network for submission and approval of requests

Increase consistency & transparency for patients and providers

Develop a standard prior authorization form accepted by all insurers



Effects of Prior Authorization Practices



U.S. physicians report spending up to 16 hours weekly on prior authorization tasks with labor costs exceeding \$500 million annually.

Current prior authorization practices can:

- Delay, or interrupt, care
- Divert resources from patient care
- Complicate medical decision-making
- Worsen health care disparities