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MEDCHI LAUNCHES YOUR CARE IS AT OUR CORE ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN

BALTIMORE, September 23, 2024 – MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, is proud to launch the *Your Care is At Our Core* Campaign in collaboration with the [American Medical Association](#) (AMA) to strengthen the bond between patients and their physicians, the foundation of health care.

Over the past few years, physicians have faced growing challenges ignited by battles over the COVID-19 pandemic, science and evidence-based care, and the prevalence of mis- and disinformation. These factors have distracted from what matters most – the connection between America’s physicians and their patients.

“Physicians are drawn to medicine to heal and to change lives for the better,” said AMA President Bruce A. Scott, M.D. “Too often these days administrative burdens, red tape, and obstacles like prior authorization eat into our time with patients and create barriers in the patient-physician relationship. Building and maintaining this relationship is critical for establishing trust and achieving positive health outcomes in our communities, and we must make that our focal point.”

The data speaks for themselves – 89% of patients agree that the doctor-patient relationship is central to health care, and 79% of patients agree that red tape bureaucracy makes it harder for physicians to provide the best care to patients.¹

Unfortunately, decisions made by third parties like insurance companies, pharmacy benefit managers, hospitals, and others in health care are dramatically limiting the time physicians can spend with their patients – and the treatments physicians can provide to heal and bring comfort to their patients. Health care can be an especially vulnerable space for patients, and establishing a meaningful patient-physician relationship is necessary to build trust and provide the most effective care and treatment.

MedChi President, Dr. Benjamin Lowentritt, states “both physicians and patients agree that the doctor-patient relationship is essential to make the best health care decisions. Health care can be an especially vulnerable space for patients, and physicians know compassion and establishing a

¹ Results from a National Online Survey of 1,000 voters conducted March 8-10, 2023 on behalf of the AMA.

meaningful relationship is necessary to build trust and provide the most effective care and treatment.”

Physicians are fighting alongside their patients for less bureaucracy and more time. We will continue to amplify these efforts through the *Your Care is At Our Core* campaign.

About MedChi

MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, is a non-profit membership association of Maryland physicians. It is the largest physician organization in Maryland. The mission of MedChi is to serve as Maryland's foremost advocate and resource for physicians, their patients, and the public health of Maryland. For more information, please visit www.medchi.org.

About the American Medical Association

The American Medical Association is the physicians' powerful ally in patient care. As the only medical association that convenes 190+ state and specialty medical societies and other critical stakeholders, the AMA represents physicians with a unified voice to all key players in health care. The AMA leverages its strength by removing the obstacles that interfere with patient care, leading the charge to prevent chronic disease and confront public health crises, and driving the future of medicine to tackle the biggest challenges in health care.