

MedChi

The Maryland State Medical Society



Your Advocate.

Your Resource.

Your Profession.



IMPACT UPDATE

MedChi's mission is to serve as Maryland's foremost advocate and resource for physicians, patients, and the public health.



From President Eric Wargotz, M.D.

Dear Fellow Physicians,

Is it Just a Job?

The practice of medicine is fundamentally a lifelong and full-time commitment, transcending a typical "job" or a mere "profession". As healthcare evolves, especially with the rapid integration of technology, this commitment will shift in focus. AI and other innovations are poised to streamline many routine and administrative tasks, allowing physicians to concentrate more on complex decision-making, patient interaction, and the essential human elements of care.



From CEO Gene Ransom, III

MedChi has joined a federal multidistrict litigation (MDL) against MultiPlan (recently rebranded to Claritev) and major insurers, including UnitedHealth, Elevance, Humana, Aetna, and Cigna, alleging they conspired to systematically underpay physicians for reimbursements for out-of-network services, which often fail even to cover operating costs.

MedChi joins the American Medical Association (AMA) and hundreds of physician practices and facilities nationwide in this growing antitrust litigation. This litigation seeks to hold MultiPlan and major insurance companies accountable for their alleged coordinated price-fixing

This shift is already underway, redefining the physician's role to be more collaborative with technology, rather than being replaced by it. For young physicians entering the field, the nature of this commitment is changing. AI is not a future possibility but a present reality, automating tasks like documentation, data analysis, and diagnostics. This transformation, driven by AI and other stakeholders, will relieve physicians of many burdens and give them more time for direct patient care, an outcome that ultimately benefits all. This integration is less about providing "leisure time" and more about optimizing workflows, empowering physicians to focus their expertise on the nuanced, human-centric aspects of medicine that AI cannot replicate, such as empathy and complex judgment.

The future physician will be defined by their ability to integrate human expertise with artificial intelligence effectively. This integration is a chance to reclaim our roles. Instead of being replaced, we are becoming collaborators with technology, using these tools to relieve the burdens that lead to physician burnout. This ultimately benefits everyone, giving us more time for direct patient care and the nuanced, empathetic judgment that defines a true healer. The future physician will be defined by their ability to integrate human expertise with artificial intelligence effectively.

So, when we ask if it is "just a job," the answer remains a resounding "no". It is a reclaimed calling, evolved for a new era, where the machine handles the data so that we can finally handle the person...again!

scheme leading to under-reimbursement for out-of-network services.

For years, Maryland physicians were asked to deliver care to out-of-network patients while being paid significantly less for that care. This lawsuit is about fairness and accountability. Physicians deserve to be paid appropriately for the care they provide, and patients are harmed when payment practices discourage access to needed services.

This lawsuit, filed in the Northern District Court of Illinois in 2024, seeks to end MultiPlan's alleged anticompetitive scheme that has operated since at least 2015 and recoup financial damages for physicians and practices. As of 2024, MultiPlan processes more than 80% of all commercial out-of-network reimbursement claims in the United States.

Physicians who believe they have been harmed by MultiPlan and the insurance companies can obtain a free case evaluation from one of the law firms appointed by the court to lead the non-class claims or contact the firm at multiplanlitigation@agg.com.

MultiPlan Health Insurance Provider Litigation

Learn more about this litigation in our upcoming webinar.

Friday, March 6, 2026

Center for Value Based Care

Center for the Private Practice of Medicine

Center for the Employed Physician

www.medchi.org



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