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233 South 13th Street, Suite 1200
Lincoln, NE 68508
402-474-4472

www.nebmed.org



We are looking for members who want to be engaged in their medical and specialty societies, whether it is through advocacy, outreach, or committee and commission work.

Annual Report 2018



Celebrating 150 Years of Advocating for Physicians and the Health of all Nebraskans

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About Us

Founded in 1867, the Nebraska Medical Association has served as an advocate for Nebraska physicians, their patients, and the health of all Nebraskans for 150 years.

NMA Vision

That the Nebraska Medical Association be the pre-eminent unifying physician medical organization in the state of Nebraska.

NMA Mission

To serve our physician members as advocates for our profession, for our patients, and for the health of all Nebraskans.

NMA Staff Mission

The NMA team is dedicated to educating, serving, and advocating for our customers in the promotion of organized medicine.

We are your Nebraska Medical Association - 2,416 members strong with representation from 104 specialties from across the state of Nebraska.

We are advocating for physicians

The NMA advocated on and tracked over 60 bills of the 469 bills introduced in the 2018 legislative session. Key bills included:

LB 42 – The NMA supported this bill, which amended Nebraska law regarding the age at which a child must be secured in a car seat. It moved the age requirement from 6 to 8 years of age. It also required all children up to two years of age to use a rear-facing car seat until the child outgrows the manufacturer's maximum allowable height or weight. Also specified that children under age eight ride in the backseat.

LB 285 – This NMA sponsored bill required human immunodeficiency virus testing and eliminated consent requirements for such testing. The bill repealed the statutory section that required a specific exclusion and written informed consent for HIV testing. The bill also required obstetricians to test pregnant women for HIV, however it allowed the pregnant woman to opt out of testing.

LB 391 – The NMA worked to stop LB 391, a bill that would have expanded the scope of practice of optometry to include the performance of minor surgical procedures required for the treatment of cysts or infected or inflamed glands of the eyelid and the injection of pharmaceutical agents for the purposes allowed pursuant to section 38-2604. It also provided for how optometrists can receive approval from the Board of Optometry to administer injections or perform minor surgical procedures.

LB 703 – This NMA sponsored bill provided an exemption from Nebraska's unlawful practice of medicine statute for physicians of another state who accompany an athletic team or organization into Nebraska for an event. The exemption is limited to such athletic team or organization while present in Nebraska.

LB 704 – The NMA sponsored this bill which reduced the requirement for licensure of physician graduates of foreign medical schools from three years to two years.

LB 1127 – The NMA sponsored a bill that would provide for a \$10 annual patient safety fee for persons licensed as a physician, osteopathic physician, physician assistant, nurse, occupational therapist, pharmacist, or physician therapist. The revenue would be used to support educational and patient safety activities of the Nebraska Coalition for Patient Safety. The NMA brought a revised version of this bill in 2019.

In addition to many one on one senator meetings, the NMA also sponsored the following advocacy specific events in 2018.

- > Annual Advocacy Breakfast
- > Health Care Forums for State Senators

We are developing and mentoring future physician leaders

Development: Ten physicians are participating in the NMA's 2018-19 Physician Leadership Academy; six participated in 2017-18. This 10-month program was made possible by a generous grant from the Physician's Foundation. Selected participants undergo an assessment of the physician leader that measures the physician leader's proficiency in 18 creative leadership competencies plus nine reactive tendencies. Monthly sessions encompass a full curriculum of leadership topics and provide regular opportunities for peer coaching and accountability.

Mentoring: The AMA/NMA Health Policy Network is an assembly of Nebraska physicians who are active in health policy and advocacy. These physicians are paired with NMA medical student members from UNMC and Creighton who share similar health policy interests.

Physician mentors guide students in understanding current issues in health policy, help identify opportunities for hands-on experience in applying advocacy skills at the local or federal level, and provide advice on how to stay involved in health policy while practicing as a physician.

Three physician/student mentoring events were held in 2018.

We are promoting physicians as the leaders of the health care team and encouraging patients to be active participants in their health care.

Go Big Med – Over the past year the NMA has promoted the physician as the leader of the health care team and critical patient screenings through advertisements in different Husker sports venues. These efforts are ongoing.

We are promoting public health

The NMA's recent iHeart Radio campaign, implemented in 2018, is an ongoing effort that highlights numerous health issues including car seat safety, flu vaccinations, skin cancer, and other important topics.

We are educating

In 2018, the NMA provided free continuing medical education on the following topics: Advancing Children's Health, Youth Suicide, Human Trafficking, and Healthcare Guardians, in addition to distributing and promoting numerous other educational opportunities.

We are collaborating

The NMA collaborates with dozens of organizations and stakeholder groups and serves and represents physicians on numerous committees to promote and advance medicine while also working to improve the health of all Nebraskans.

We are communicating

NMA Advocate Issues on Substance Use, Advocacy, and 150 Years of the NMA

NMA STAT and Advocacy Alerts – 26 last year



We are adding new tangible benefits for members, their staff, and their families

- > AAA Nebraska
- > Enterprise Rent-A-Car discount
- > First National Bank Mortgage Program
- > First National Bank Wealth Management Program