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Evaluating State Approaches to the Medical Malpractice Crisis

Wednesday, April 7, 2004



NEW! Click here to read a copy of the Health Policy Monitor issue brief on Medical Malpractice.

To view a pdf. transcript of the call, click here.

To listen to an audio file of the teleconference, click here.

Over the last several years, state leaders have been forced to grapple with the rising cost of medical malpractice insurance. Concerned with its effect on access to care, and under pressure from state medical groups, state policy-makers plunged into the debate, seeking effective solutions to a complicated problem.

Now, two years into the crisis, it is time for states leaders to evaluate their response. What affect have state reforms had? What policies succeeded in reducing or stabilizing premiums quickly and what policies are expected to benefit states in the long-term?

CSG's *Health Policy Monitor* teleconference "Evaluating State Approaches to the Medical Malpractice Crisis" will examine state response and evaluate the short- and long-term benefits of various state approaches. Expert panelists will reflect on the current situation and how it compares to past crises. Representatives from two states – Pennsylvania and Nevada – will discuss the situation in their state and the impact of state reforms.

Panelists

- William Sage, Professor of Law, Columbia University. More from Dr. Sage can be found at <http://mediabilitytpa.org/>, including a paper he wrote titled Understanding the First Malpractice Crisi of the 21st Century
- J. Andrew Crompton, Counsel to the President Pro Tempore, Pennsylvania Senate. Information on the Patient Safety Authority discussed by Mr. Crompton can be found at www.psa.state.pa.us.
- Assemblyman Bob Beers, Nevada State Assembly

Moderator

Trudi Matthews, Associate Director of Health Policy, Council of State Governments

Questions?

For information about the teleconference, contact Jenny Sewell, Health Policy

Analyst (859) 244-8154 or jsewell@csg.org

Sponsors

CSG thanks the following Associate members for supporting this important service to state officials:

- American Nurses Association
- HCA – Hospital Corporation of America
- Hoffmann-La Roche, Inc.
- Pfizer, Inc.

Additional Resources

- "CSG TrendsAlert on the Medical Malpractice Crisis" The Council of State Governments
- "Rising Malpractice Premiums" *Stateline Midwest*, CSG Midwest
- Medical Malpractice Presentation - Randall Bovbjerg, Urban Institute, Presentation at 2003 CSG Annual Meeting
- "The Medical Malpractice 'Crisis': Recent Trends And The Impact Of State Tort Reforms" *Health Affairs*
- "Medical Malpractice in Crisis: Health Care Policy Options" Council on Health Care Economics and Policy (available on The Kaiser Family Foundation web site)
- "Medical Malpractice Insurance: Multiple Factors Have Contributed to Increased Premium Rates" GAO
- "The Medical Malpractice Insurance Crisis: Opportunity for State Action" National Academy for State Health Policy
- "The New Medical Malpractice Crisis" *New England Journal of Medicine*
- "Medical Malpractice Liability Crisis Meets Markets: Stress in Unexpected Places" Center for Studying Health System Change
- "Malpractice Reform Must Include Steps To Prevent Medical Injury" The Commonwealth Fund (available in Annals of Internal Medicine web site)

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