



PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

2704 Commerce Drive ♦ Harrisburg, PA 17110 ♦ p 717.564.5365 ♦ f 717.564.4235

CONTACT: Bryan D. Peach, Director of Content and Media
direct 717.395.0048 ♦ email bpeach@pafp.com ♦ www.pafp.com ♦ www.pafp.com/press

PAFP: Gov. Wolf's immunity protections don't go far enough

(HARRISBURG, PA. May 7, 2020) “While the Pennsylvania Academy of Family Physicians (PAFP) appreciates Gov. Tom Wolf’s order to provide civil suit immunity for health care workers, we are disappointed that the order stops at the hospital door and doesn’t apply to providers working in outpatient settings,” said PAFP President Tracey Conti, MD. “Family physicians play a vital role in keeping patients out of hospitals and emergency rooms, helping to stop the spread of COVID-19. The PAFP urges Gov. Wolf and the General Assembly to address this omission now, and extend protections for frontline physicians who are working tirelessly to keep patients safe and healthy. Physicians who practice in outpatient settings should be able to treat patients with COVID-19 symptoms without the looming fear of being sued.”

The Pennsylvania Academy of Family Physicians and its Foundation supports its members (including nearly 80 percent of Pennsylvania family physicians) through advocacy and education to ensure physician-coordinated, personalized, and comprehensive quality health care for every Pennsylvanian. The Academy and its Foundation are the leading influential resource among family physicians and physicians in training in Pennsylvania; the primary voice on health care issues with state legislative and administrative branches of government, media and professional health organizations; and the leader on health care issues in the community.

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