**ASMA Position Statement:**

1.  Scope of practice:  ASMA supports safe, effective, and high quality medical care.  ASMA supports practitioners providing care within their training and expertise.

ASMA does not support the naturopathic providers' desire to expand into prescribing medications or performing surgical procedures.

2.  Licensing of Physicians and Physician Assistants:  ASMA supports thorough and careful granting of state licenses to physician and PA applicants.  ASMA also urges that this process be efficient and streamlined, with clear communication to the applicants. ASMA supports modernization of the licensing process and timely processing of license applications.

3.  WWAMI:  ASMA supports full and consistent funding of the medical school for Alaska students, the WWAMI program.

4.  All Payor Claims Data Base:  ASMA supports the all payor claims data base, to ensure comprehensive and adequate data to guide policy decisions.

5.  Telemedicine:  ASMA supports high quality telemedicine services that decrease the travel burden for patients and improve access to care for Alaskans.  ASMA prefers that all patients in Alaska have an Alaska-based primary care physician or non-physician provider (NPP), who coordinates and directs the patient's care.  ASMA is cautious about out of state care that is not provided in collaboration with the patient's primary care practitioner.

6.  Substance use disorder treatment – Buprenorphine/naloxone (Suboxone):  ASMA supports the telemedicine prescribing and monitoring of buprenorphine/naloxone (Suboxone) for opioid use disorder, without an in-person exam.

7.  Public Health:  ASMA supports science-based public health initiatives and policy.

* ASMA supports reducing the burden of vaccine-preventable disease and following the CDC immunization schedule.
* ASMA supports efforts to promote physical activity and achieving healthy body weight.
* ASMA supports efforts to reduce the burden of sexually transmitted infections and other infectious diseases.
* ASMA supports efforts to reduce the burden of mental health and substance use disorders.
* ASMA supports efforts to reduce the health burdens of homelessness.
* ASMA supports efforts to address climate instability and its effect on health.

8.  Anti-racism and equity:  ASMA supports anti-racism and non-discrimination in healthcare based on [race](https://www.eeoc.gov/racecolor-discrimination), [color](https://www.eeoc.gov/racecolor-discrimination), [religion](https://www.eeoc.gov/religious-discrimination), [sex](https://www.eeoc.gov/sex-based-discrimination) (including [pregnancy](https://www.eeoc.gov/pregnancy-discrimination), [sexual orientation](https://www.eeoc.gov/wysk/what-you-should-know-about-eeoc-and-enforcement-protections-lgbt-workers), or [gender identity](https://www.eeoc.gov/wysk/what-you-should-know-about-eeoc-and-enforcement-protections-lgbt-workers)), [national origin](https://www.eeoc.gov/national-origin-discrimination), [disability](https://www.eeoc.gov/disability-discrimination), [age](https://www.eeoc.gov/age-discrimination) (40 or older) or [genetic information](https://www.eeoc.gov/genetic-information-discrimination) (including family medical history)

9.  ASMA supports physician wellness, including rehabilitation and other services as needed.

Adopted June 2022