

American Academy of Actuaries Health Practice Council 2021 Updates

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November 29, 2021—NAIC Health Actuarial (B) Task Force (HATF) Meeting

About the American Academy of Actuaries

The Academy assists public policymakers on all levels by providing leadership, objective expertise, and actuarial advice on risk and financial security issues. The Academy and its boards also set qualification, practice, and other professionalism and ethical standards for actuaries credentialed by one or more of the five U.S.-based actuarial organizations in the United States.



Public Policy and the Academy

The Academy, through its public policy work, seeks to address pressing issues that require or would benefit from the application of sound actuarial principles. The Academy provides unbiased actuarial expertise and advice to public policy decision-makers and stakeholders at the state, federal, and international levels in all areas of actuarial practice.



Key Health Policy Priorities for 2021

- COVID-19: Implications for Health Care Utilization and Spending
- Health Insurance Coverage and the Affordable Care Act
- Health Equity
- Long-Term Care
- Medicare Sustainability



COVID-19: Implications for Health Care Utilization and Spending

- Issue Briefs / Papers:
 - ▣ [COVID-19's Impacts on Long-Term Care Insurance](#)
 - ▣ [Telehealth After COVID-19](#)
 - ▣ [Medicaid Managed Care Plan Rate Setting as Impacted by COVID-19](#)
- Comment Letters:
 - ▣ [Comments to Treasury, DOL, and HHS on Insurance and Health Plan Coverage of COVID-19 Testing](#)



Health Insurance Coverage and the Affordable Care Act

- Issue Briefs:
 - ▣ [Drivers of 2022 Health Insurance Premium Changes](#)
- Comment Letters:
 - ▣ [Health Practice Council \(HPC\) Comments on Review of Agency Actions Related to the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid](#)
 - ▣ [Comments to HHS, DOL, and the Treasury on the No Surprises Act](#)
 - ▣ [Comments to CMS on Updating Payment Parameters Proposed Rule](#)



Health Equity

- Discussion Briefs:
 - ▣ [Health Equity From an Actuarial Perspective](#)
 - ▣ [Health Equity and Premium Pricing](#)
 - ▣ [Health Equity and Health Plan Benefit Design](#)
 - ▣ [Health Equity and Provider Contracting/Network Development](#)
 - ▣ [Health Equity and Managing Population Health](#)
- Comment Letters:
 - ▣ Comment Letters on Colorado Senate Bill 21-169 ([March](#) and [April](#) 2021), a bill to protect consumers from unfair discrimination in insurance practices.
- [Request for Information \(RFI\) on Assessing Whether or How Actuarial Practices Affect Health Disparities](#)—information due to the Academy by Jan. 14, 2022



Long-Term Care

- Issue Briefs
 - ▣ [Regulatory Options for Long-Term Care \(LTC\) Insurance Innovation](#)
 - ▣ [Long-Term Care Financing Reform Proposals Involving Public Programs](#)
- Reports
 - ▣ [Long-Term Care Insurance Mortality and Lapse Study](#)
 - Request from NAIC Long-Term Care Actuarial Working Group (LTCAWG)
- Practice Notes
 - ▣ [Long-Term Care Insurance](#)



Medicare Sustainability

- Issue Briefs:
 - ▣ [Medicare's Financial Condition: Beyond Actuarial Balance](#)



Additional Academy HPC Updates

- Practice Note: Actuarial Standard of Practice (ASOP) No. 6—*Development of Age-Specific Retiree Health Cost Assumptions, Including Applications to Pooled and Non-Pooled Health Plans*
 - ▣ Oct. 2021 Presentation at the CCA Annual Meeting
- The Academy formed the Climate Change Joint Task Force in Oct. 2021, and membership is comprised of the HPC, the Casualty Practice Council (CPC), and the Risk Management and Financial Reporting Council (RMFRC).



HPC NAIC Workstreams—HATF

- Health Actuarial (B) Task Force
 - Request for comments on proposal to modify the definition of “actuarial assets” as used in the instructions for the Health Statement of Actuarial Opinion
 - [April](#) and [May](#) 2021 Academy comment letters



HPC NAIC Workstreams—HRBC

- Health Risk-Based Capital (E) Working Group
 - Request for Analysis to Incorporate Investment Income into the Underwriting Risk Component of the Health Risk-Based Capital Formula
 - [Jan. 2021](#), [Feb. 2021](#), and [April 2021](#) Academy comment letters
 - Request for Comprehensive Review of the H2—Underwriting Risk Component and Managed Care Credit Calculation in the Health Risk-Based Capital Formula
 - [July 2021](#) Academy comment letter



HPC NAIC Workstreams—LTC (EX)

- NAIC Long-Term Care Insurance (EX) Task Force Long-term Care Insurance MSA Framework. Academy comments on:
 - ▣ [Long-Term Care Insurance \(LTCI\) Multistate Rate Review Framework](#)
 - ▣ [Actuarial Sections](#)
 - ▣ [Operational and Actuarial Sections, Sept. 2021 Exposures](#)
- Long-Term Care Insurance Reduced Benefit Options (EX) Subgroup
 - ▣ [Academy comments](#) on exposure draft, *Issues Related to LTC Wellness Benefits*



HPC NAIC Workstreams—Special (EX) R&I Workstream #5

- NAIC Special (EX) Committee on Race and Insurance—Workstream 5 (Health)
 - ▣ [Comments on Exposure Draft of White Paper on *Provider Network Outline*](#)
 - ▣ [Comments on the Revised Exposure Draft of *Principles for Data Collection*](#)



2021 HPC Virtual Hill Visits

- April 15 and 16, 2021, via Zoom
- More than 20 Academy volunteers took part in 24 meetings with Hill and agency staffers
- Issues discussed included: Medicaid and Medicare, health equity, telehealth, COVID-19, surprise billing, prescription drug prices, long-term care (LTC), and the Affordable Care Act (ACA)



Academy Presentations

- Feb. 2021 Senior Health Fellow [presentation](#) on “Medicare Solvency Projections and Potential Policy Solutions” webinar sponsored by the Alliance for Health Policy.
- April 2021 [presentation](#) to Columbus Actuarial Club on “Long-Term Care Insurance: Public Policy Update”
- May 2021 Academy [webinar](#) on “Health Equity: An Actuarial Perspective”
- June 2021 presentation to the SOA on “Health Equity: How Actuaries Are Contributing to Efforts to Reduce Health Disparities”
- Oct. 2021 presentations to the CCA on “Social Determinants of Health & Health Equity” and “ASOP No. 6 Practice Note”



Academy 2021 Annual Meeting and Public Policy Forum

- Nov. 4 and 5, 2021, annual conference
- Three health-specific breakout sessions
 - “Addressing the Risk of Medicare Insolvency”
 - “Regulating the Affordable Care Act: What’s New for 2022” — Presentation from CMS/CCIIO
 - “Expanding Access to Health Insurance Coverage”
- Plenaries covering cross-practice equity and COVID-19 issues



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Actuarial Standards Board

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Questions?

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