



Physician Assistant expansion will disrupt the physician-led care team and significantly impact the delivery of quality care in Illinois.

Legislation, Senate Bill 218 and House Bill 2306, has been recently introduced in the Illinois House and Senate that would create a pathway for independent practice for Physician Assistants (PA's) including the authority to prescribe, order, and administer medications without the delegation from a physician.

These bills would remove the required written collaborative agreement for PAs and grant them independent practice after they complete additional hours of continuing education and in-clinic training.

- Patients seeking medical care expect and deserve to receive care from the most highly trained experts available.
- Removing the requirement that Physician Assistants maintain a collaboration agreement to and granting prescription authority without physician involvement does nothing to strengthen the medical team nor increase the quality of care and safety.
- Physician collaboration with PA's is essential in providing the upmost high-quality patient care and safety for the patient. Without this vital team collaboration,
 - Patient confusion, misdiagnoses and over-utilization of services could result in independent PA practice.
 - Patient safety is hindered by the allowance of PA's to administer and prescribe drugs, including scheduled II by injection.

Physician Assistant expansion could weaken patient access to the highest quality and safe medical care.

The Illinois College of Emergency Physicians is the state medical specialty society representing more than 1,300 emergency physicians across Illinois. As the state chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians, ICEP works to support quality emergency care.