

# DOCTOR DAY 2025

*Advocacy at the Capitol*



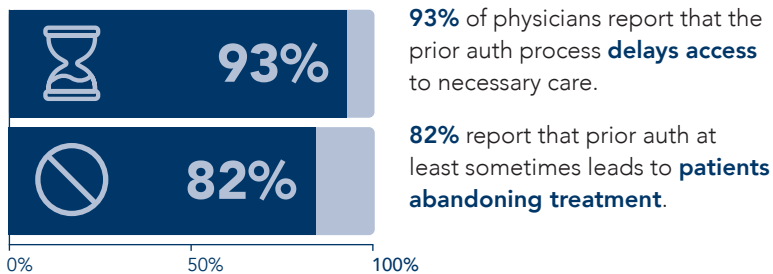
## Reforming Prior Authorization in Wisconsin

Health insurance plans use prior authorization (prior auth) to help control costs – but too often those requirements result in unnecessary delays in care while adding administrative headaches for physicians and clinical staff. Reforming prior authorization in Wisconsin helps patients access their medically-necessary care while eliminating time-grinding annoyances when requesting prior auth or appealing a denial.

### National Survey of Physicians in 2024 Reveals Prior Auth's Dramatic Impacts on Patients

The American Medical Association (AMA) conducts an annual survey<sup>1</sup> of physicians to assess prior auth's impacts on patients, physicians, employers, and overall health care spending. The results from the most recent survey in 2024 are troubling:

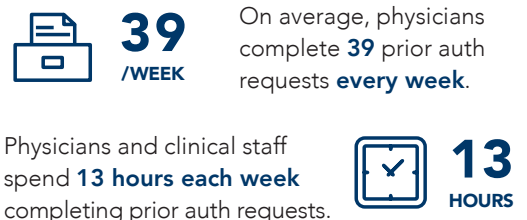
#### PATIENT IMPACT



Almost one-third of physicians (30%) report that prior auth has led to a **serious adverse event** for a patient in their care.



#### PHYSICIAN IMPACT



**40%** of physicians have **staff who work exclusively** on prior auth.

### How to Improve the Prior Auth Process for Patients and Physicians

The current prior auth system needs reasonable guardrails to create a more predictable and efficient system for patients and physicians. State Assembly Representative Barb Ditttrich will be introducing an Assembly Bill that establishes needed reforms:

- Establish quick response times (24 hours for urgent, 72 hours for non-urgent care).
- Adverse determinations can be made only by a Wisconsin-licensed physician in the same specialty that typically manages the patient's condition.
- Prohibit retroactive denials if care has been preauthorized.
- Authorization should be valid for one year at minimum, regardless of dose changes, and valid for the length of treatment for chronic conditions.
- When switching health plans, the new plan should honor the patient's prior authorization for at least 90 days.
- Creation of a gold-carding program, allowing physicians consistently performing necessary care to be exempt from prior auth requirements for an appropriate time period.

#### THE ASK

Ask your State Assembly Representative and State Senator to support Rep. Ditttrich's prior authorization reform bill.

<sup>1</sup> American Medical Association, <https://www.ama-assn.org/system/files/prior-authorization-survey.pdf>