



Frontiers

American Academy of Home Care Medicine
Home Care Medicine's Voice

American Academy of
Home Care Medicine

The AAHCM empowers you to serve patients who need health care in their homes through public advocacy, clinical education, practice management support, and connections to a network of over 1,000 professionals in home care medicine.

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AAHCM 2015–2016 Annual Report and Strategic Plan

It's truly remarkable how much has happened in the past 12 months! We are honored to be leading the American Academy of Home Care Medicine (AAHCM), and although much has been accomplished, much remains to be done in the dynamic and evolving space of home care medicine.

In September, we made a transition to the Association Management Center (AMC) in Chicago and now have a team to help handle all of the day-to-day operations for the Academy as well as assist with membership growth and organizational development. Those of us on the board who have had the opportunity to work closely with AMC are continually impressed with their expertise and professionalism.

The first item on the agenda was to create a strategic plan. In October, the board gathered at the company headquarters to participate in a day and a half planning session with a facilitator and the new Academy staff. It was an intense and exciting time that enabled the board to assess where AAHCM had been and the direction for the future. The board's

dedication, shared wisdom, and focus was extraordinary.

An ambitious and robust plan that leads us to 2020 was created, and it includes new mission and vision statements as well as five goal areas to focus our efforts. The new mission statement has been revised to incorporate the former statement and embrace the inclusive multidisciplinary delivery of home care medicine. It now reads:

AAHCM delivers on the promise of interdisciplinary, high-value health care in the home for all people in need by promoting the art, science, and practice of home care medicine. It is the professional association that represents physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, social workers, and others working in the field of home care medicine.

The vision statement for the Academy is brilliant in its simplicity:

Interdisciplinary health care at home available to all in need.

To fulfill the mission statement, advocacy efforts will still be a primary

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focus with Independence at Home (IAH) being at the forefront of the agenda.

The **advocacy** goal reads:

AAHCM advocates for the field of home care medicine and the health and well-being of the patients who are served.

Activities in this area will be focused on promoting the Medicare Independence at Home Demonstration to a national program and increasing patient, public, professional, policy maker, and payer awareness of the role and value of this exciting field.

The second goal is to **develop governance structures**, policies, and procedures to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the AAHCM Board of Directors and foster board and staff development in achieving the strategic direction and operational efficiency of AAHCM.

The third goal is **ensuring that home care medicine providers and practices deliver high-quality, consistent, compassionate care**. To deliver on this goal, the Academy will be develop benchmarks, workforce metrics, and quality indicators. It is expected that AAHCM will establish partnerships to create and deliver educational content to enhance the knowledge and practice of home care medicine.

Workforce development is the foundation of the fourth goal area. Should IAH become a Medicare program, there will be an increased need for practitioners to deliver home care medicine. It is the intention of the Academy to become the definitive resource for interdisciplinary education in home-based primary care. We want to partner with innovators, policy makers, and knowledgeable stakeholders to create and develop opportunities for professional development. One way to do this is to collaborate to create a library of tools and resources to support sustainable practice management. Another way is to create home care medicine curriculum in medical schools.

The last goal is **research**. The Academy will dedicate resources to develop and facilitate research that promotes the value of home care medicine. This could include developing and promoting an analytic structure and an inventory of model types for home care medicine; aggregating, synthesizing, and disseminating published and unpublished data that supports the value of home care medicine; and developing accurate and reliable risk adjustment and frailty models for populations that qualify for home care medicine.

We are in a significant phase of transformation. We are pushing ourselves higher and further than ever before because the practice of home care medicine demands it. Our frail, elderly, and homebound patients deserve it, and we have dedicated our professional lives to delivering on the promise of interdisciplinary, high-value health care in the home for all people in need.

This summarizes the key activities of the Academy, but we are very aware that extraordinary things are happening in your practices all across the country—accomplishments about which we have yet to learn. As an Academy and as a field, we will only be successful when all patients and families in need are able to hear that comforting knock at their door.

Sincerely,



Mindy Fain, MD
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Home Care Medicine