



Leading Change. Improving Care for Older Adults.

ABOUT US

The American Geriatrics Society (AGS) is a national not-for-profit health professions organization comprised of over 6,000 physician and non-physician practitioners and researchers who specialize in the care of the elderly – the most vulnerable and the most affected by chronic diseases. Our members are trained to meet the complex medical and social needs of this growing population.

POLICY PRIORITIES

The AGS mission is to improve the health, independence, and quality of life of all older people. We believe that doing so will ensure that we all can continue to make meaningful contributions to our communities as we age.

We believe in a vision for the future when we all are able to contribute to our communities and maintain our health, safety, and independence as we age; and when older people have access to high-quality, person-centered care informed by geriatrics principles. **To achieve our vision, we believe that federal and state policies must:**

- Expand healthcare options for us all as we age to include in-home and other care that enable us to live independently for as long as possible, help older adults and caregivers better understand healthcare needs and make the most of Medicare and other benefits, and provide caregivers with adequate resources and support.
- Ensure that value-based purchasing and other quality initiatives take into account the unique healthcare needs of all older people.
- Strengthen primary and preventive care and care coordination.
- Address the acute and growing nationwide shortage of all geriatrics healthcare professionals, and ensure that other healthcare providers have training that prepares them to meet the unique healthcare needs of older people.
- Step-up research concerning healthy aging; the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of age-related health problems, and the cost-effectiveness of various approaches to care, as well as ensure that older adults are adequately represented in research trials.
- Together with our experts and partners, the AGS is working hard to shape programs and policies that are important to older people, their families, and healthcare professionals.

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