



Greetings from the Washington State Urology Society!

This is your Urology Society news update.

Advocacy

It has been a busy rule-making period. The following are relevant to Urology:

1. The Washington State legislative session ends soon. House Bill 1357 standardizes prior authorization by shortening times to determinations, and mandating electronic prior authorization, with integration into EMR. This has passed in the State House and is awaiting a vote in the Senate.
2. Cigna is requiring submission of medical records with all E+M claims for CPT 99212-99215 and modifier -25, when a minor procedure is billed. This is scheduled to go into effect May 25. Many organizations, including AMA and WSMA, have stated their opposition.
3. Naturopathic Practitioners requested the expansion of their scope of practice to include vasectomies. WSUS Government Affairs Chair Dr. Jeffrey Frankel personally attended 3 Board of Naturopathy meetings to testify against this, and WSUS and AUA submitted a joint letter in opposition. The Washington State Attorney General submitted an opinion to the Board of Naturopathy which did not increase their scope of practice to include vasectomy but did not specifically oppose it either.

We encourage you to contact your state Senators and Representatives, and

voice your concerns about these and other issues. The impact of a personal relationship with your legislators cannot be overstated. WSUS also invites the membership to submit any advocacy questions or concerns.

Save the Date: 2024 Urology Legislative Day in Olympia is **January 30, 2024**

[Annual meeting](#)

The WSUS annual meeting will be at the [Semiahmoo Resort](#), June 16-18, in Blaine, WA. This is a family friendly resort, and all are welcome. This year's program will include a comprehensive review of BPH therapy, male infertility, the genitourinary syndrome of menopause, pelvic health and the role of physical therapy, review of state and national advocacy issues, discussion of clinical efficiencies, and Mark Painter's coding and reimbursement review and update. Hope to see you there.

Congratulations

Dr. Kathleen Kieran, WSUS Pediatric Urologic Health committee chairwoman, has been selected to the 2023-2024 class of the [AUA Leadership Program](#). Congratulations!

In Memoria

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Dr. Warren H. Chapman, Professor Emeritus of Urology at the University of Washington. The following link leads to a remembrance authored by Dr. Hunter Wessells. ([LINK](#))

Regional Meetings

The WSUS regional meeting schedule is as follows:

5/19/23—Spokane

9/22/23—Yakima

10/20/23—Tri-Cities

11/17/23—Seattle region

Evenings consist of dinner and fellowship, and all members of your practices, as well as spouses, are invited. Please register with [Debi Johnson](#).

Podcasts

The WSUS-sponsored [The Original Guide to Men's Health](#) and [Healthcare Coup podcasts](#) are continually generating new content important to the health of your patients. You can access both podcasts at wsus.org.

DocMatter

This [members-only platform](#) allows you to query the membership with clinical and practice management questions. This is moderated, HIPAA compliant, and without commercial bias. Please feel free to submit cases, as well as contribute your expertise to discussions.

Please renew your membership

Membership fees are critical for funding advocacy and events. [Please renew at wsus.org](#).

WSUS needs you!

WSUS is seeking one person from each region of our state to function as a liaison between WSUS and the practices in your region. Please contact [myself](#) or [Debi Johnson](#) if interested.

This is your organization!

Please contact me at any time with questions, comments and suggestions as to how we can better serve your needs.

Hope it gets warm soon!

[Marco A. Salazar, MD, Ph.D](#)

Washington State Urology Society Membership Chair
Evergreen Health Urology Care
Kirkland, WA

MISSION

To enhance the delivery and quality of urologic care through education and

advocacy for patients, physicians and advanced practice providers.

VISION

To be recognized as a collaborative resource on the creation of health policy, patient education, and forums for urologists addressing urologic health, accessibility, and delivery of optimal care for Washington state communities, residents and our members.
