



ACP SERVICES

Committed to supporting efforts that improve the the practice of internal medicine

PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER

Larry Jones, MD, FACP, President

PA-ACP STATEMENT OPPOSING BLANKET/STOCK EXEMPTION FORMS

(September 11, 2021) - The Pennsylvania Chapter of the American College of Physicians represents more than 7,500 internists across the state. Every day our members work toward the health and wellbeing of Pennsylvania's adult patients.

PA-ACP strongly opposes use of blanket/stock form exemptions from any public health regulations. We firmly believe that any discussion of exemptions should be held between the patient (and parents where appropriate) and the physician responsible for that patient's ongoing health and medical treatment.

Internists follow the evidence, and evidence clearly demonstrates that vaccination remains our best defense against COVID in our communities. These vaccines work-but right now, children under 12 years of age are not able to get the protection that the vaccines produce. And evidence also confirms that masking is effective in fighting the spread of COVID-19.

Healthy children and development of solid physician-patient partnerships leads to healthy adults. And helping keep children healthy prevents spread of the disease and its variants to their parents and other adults in their circles.

Internists share the goals of keeping children safe in school for in-person education - to promote leaning and improved mental health outcomes for our kids. Frankly, PA-ACP was appalled that certain providers, physicians and others were providing blanket forms for exemption from the state masking mandate.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Larry Jones', with a small arrow pointing to the right.

Larry Jones, MD, FACP
President
PA-ACP Services