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For Immediate Release

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## **Emergency Physician Trade Group Applauds White House Health Reform Principles**

Emergency Department Practice Management Association (EDPMA) is proud to join the nation's largest medical and professional associations in declaring support for President Obama's health care reform principles.

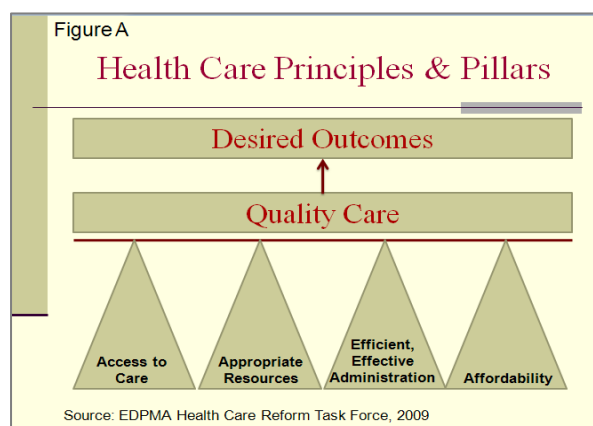
EDPMA represents the nation's largest association of Emergency Department (ED) physician groups, including organizations that support the delivery of emergency medical care to the nation. EDPMA's mission is to advocate for sustainable quality patient care through operational excellence and economic stability. Its members impact over half of the 125 million patients seen in U.S. emergency departments annually.

EDPMA believes the nation will make significant strides toward attaining an affordable, quality health care system when four basic principles are honored: (1) access to care, (2) appropriate resources, (3) efficient and effective administration, and (4) affordability.

EDPMA chairman, Randy Pilgrim, MD, FACEP, FAAFP said, "It is imperative that we provide all Americans with access to quality emergency medical care. Health care reform measures must clearly provide necessary resources to meet patient's acute health care needs."

EDPMA's members are committed to caring for patients day and night, regardless of patients' ability to pay for services. Increasingly regarded as the nation's health care "safety net", the nation's emergency departments not only care for the sick and injured, but also those who don't have timely access to medical care in their communities.

President Obama's reform principles are consistent with the recommendations and work product of EDPMA's Health Care Reform Task Force (see Figure A.) After extensive consideration by seasoned thought leaders across the nation, EDPMA promoted these principles throughout the past year. The "Principles and Pillars" approach guides an intelligent analysis of proposals for health care reform, and promotes solid, forward-looking recommendations.





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## **EDPMA HEALTH CARE REFORM TASK FORCE**

### Principles and Pillars

- **Access to Care**
  - All Americans should have access to health care needs, including preventive care, trauma care and mental health resources.
- **Appropriate Resources**
  - Health care services must be supported by the economic resources required to deliver that care.
- **Affordability**
  - We believe all Americans should have health care coverage.
  - Families and individuals must have health care coverage to provide reasonable protection from financial ruin.
- **Efficient and Effective Administration**
  - Administrative requirements should not unnecessarily erode available time or resources intended for patient care.
  - Health Information Technology must be utilized uniformly to eliminate administrative complexities and create a more efficient health care delivery system.

“We are pleased to express our support of the principles of health care reform outlined by the White House. We believe these principles will ultimately support sustainable quality care for all Americans with acute health care needs,” says Pilgrim.

EDPMA proudly links arms with our colleagues in the health care industry in supporting these reform principles.

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