We know the health care landscape is changing quickly and challenging the way medicine has been practiced. AAPM&R wants physiatrists to be bold and successful in the future, which is why we began the Visioning PM&R BOLD initiative nearly 2 years ago.

PM&R BOLD is not just a project. It is driven by the needs of the specialty to ensure a thriving future for physiatrists. Based on what we’ve learned from thousands of physiatrists, the specialty must be bold—both now and in the future.

As the primary medical society for physiatry, AAPM&R is in a position to offer support, resources, education, and innovation. This means we must be bold in our priorities, entering spaces we historically have not. We must be bold in our actions, by being transparent and unflinching in our decisions. We must be bold in our pursuit of the vision, by taking a position of leadership and confidence. **AAPM&R is being PM&R Bold and looking into the future for the sake of your patients, your practice, and you, the individual physiatrist.**

The vision represents the input of thousands of physiatrists. Making it a reality is our priority, so that together, we can thrive in the future health care landscape.

**AAPM&R will ensure that:**

- Physiatrists are **essential** medical experts in value-based **evaluation, diagnosis, and management** of neuromusculoskeletal and disabling conditions.
- Physiatrists are **indispensable** leaders in **directing rehabilitation and recovery**, and in preventing injury and disease.
- Physiatrists are **vital** in optimizing outcomes and function **early and throughout the continuum of patient care**.

To learn more about the path to the vision, visit [www.aapmr.org/pmrbold](http://www.aapmr.org/pmrbold).

No matter the practice area, we recognize the vision represents a transformation for the specialty. We know this includes challenges that the specialty needs to tackle **together** in a coordinated way. There are 4 key issues that we heard repeatedly from you, member physiatrists, during Visioning PM&R BOLD.

- Training: During and After Residency
- Specialty Identity and Value
- Workforce Limitations
- Leadership Preparation

Your Academy is actively working to clear a path to the vision for all physiatrists by addressing these barriers to making the vision a reality.

**Continue reading to learn more about how your Academy is leading the advancement of physiatry’s impact throughout health care.**
With rapid changes in health care, your Academy is staying focused on you. What is needed to ensure YOUR future? How can we best position physiatry as new health care systems emerge so YOU are able to thrive? We know there are issues affecting ALL physiatrists when we look at new opportunities in the future. So, in addition to working with you to define the future, we’re also working with you to address barriers hindering the advancement of the specialty. This is not a comprehensive list of all the work we’re committed to, but rather a discussion around the four cross-cutting issues that we heard most in the Visioning PM&R BOLD research to fulfill the vision.

**Training: During and After Residency**

*We heard:*
- Training will need to be adjusted for PM&R to be involved in the care continuum at new points and given new partnerships with other specialties.
- Graduate Medical Education will need to be innovative and expand exposure to new opportunities to ensure physiatrists have the skills and experiences necessary to compete and be valued in new health systems.
- Clinical education will be needed by those who have completed training to master skills necessary to achieve success in new and attractive models.

*We’re doing:*
- Working directly with academic training program leaders, the AAPM&R Graduate Medical Education (GME) Committee is gathering data to understand the current scope of GME training and collaborating with the residency program community to identify innovative ways to evolve GME and better prepare future physiatrists. A GME Summit will take place at #AAPMR2018 to advance this work through in-person dialogue and engagement.
- The AAPM&R Medical Education Committee, Practice Preparedness Committee, and Program Planning Committee are all working to evolve AAPM&R clinical and practice-related training in order to arm physiatrists with the training and skills needed to boldly enter into new practice opportunities.

**Specialty Identity and Value**

*We heard:*
- Understanding of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation and its value, especially at the health care system level, is a barrier many physiatrists face and will impede efforts to reposition the specialty.

*We’re doing:*
- The Academy is committed to new initiatives focused on expanding the specialty brand among key stakeholder groups, including payers and physicians in other specialties, and reinforcing the value of physiatry across health care.
- Data plays a critical role in validating and showcasing the value of PM&R in health care. The AAPM&R Registry is a mechanism for gathering data from across the specialty to arm physiatrists with data, empowering them in ways never before possible.

**Workforce Limitations**

*We heard:*
- While PM&R should be utilized more throughout the spectrum of health care, there are relatively few physiatrists compared to other medical specialties. With the low supply of physiatrists, how can PM&R expect to enter new markets and expand within existing areas?
- As rehabilitation team leaders, no one is better positioned than physiatrists to train and focus the efforts of team members to maximize value and access. Members have asked for support in working with Advanced Practice Providers (APPs) to train and retain them. 70% of AAPM&R members currently work with APPs in practice.

*We’re doing:*
- The AAPM&R Graduate Medical Education (GME) Committee is committed to working with the GME community to create resources and help programs across the country advocate for increased funding and increased slots for PM&R training.
- APPs offer the necessary support to advance innovative models of care and further the impact of Physiatry across medicine. The AAPM&R Board of Governors has proposed a new APP membership category along with educational resources for physiatrists to train APPs with physiatric oversight and within the appropriate scope of practice.
- Additionally, member volunteers are exploring other ways of expanding access to physiatrists, such as tele-health.

**Leadership Preparation**

*We heard:*
- In order to effect real change, physiatrists will need to lead change across health care through formal and informal roles. This includes positions within health care systems, with other physician groups, within their communities and at a national level.

*We’re doing:*
- In addition to evolving clinical and practice training, the Medical Education Committee and its subcommittees are also looking at ways to evolve leadership training through the Academy, including in-person at the Annual Assembly and online through mē, in order to develop the necessary leadership skills that physiatrists need in their communities to facilitate the path to change.

Change of this magnitude will take dedication, innovation, and the willingness of ALL physiatrists to collaborate. Your support of the Academy, through your membership, participation, and volunteerism, is what will make this bold future a reality. Thank you for being a part of the Academy. We encourage all members to continue to make your voice heard and become involved.
The input we received from thousands of physiatrists through Visioning PM&R BOLD revealed opportunities in musculoskeletal care, acute/post-acute care, pain medicine, pediatric rehabilitation, cancer rehabilitation medicine, and medical homes/neighborhoods. Working with members, we want to dive deep, envision the future for each practice area, and define objectives and strategies to make these futures a reality.

Below are opportunities for members to get involved and be a part of clearing a path to the vision.

1. **Complete the questionnaire on the website at www.aapmr.org/pmrbold.**
   This questionnaire helps us identify members with interest, subject matter expertise, and a passion to advance the specialty.

2. **Get involved at #AAPMR2018 in Orlando.**
   This October, we are diving deep into opportunities for Musculoskeletal Care and Acute/Post-Acute Care and we want you to be a part of it!

   To hear about the exciting new practice models identified, plan to attend:

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advancing Physiatry’s Future: Explore NEW Models of MSK Care</td>
<td>Friday, Oct 26</td>
<td>10 am–11:15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advancing Physiatry’s Future: Explore NEW Models of PM&amp;R in the Acute and Post-Acute Care Continuum</td>
<td>Saturday, Oct 27</td>
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   To connect with innovative physiatrists who are ready to lead and pioneer new models in depth, share best practices, and collaborate on the path moving forward, join us:

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*Dates and times subject to change.*

Bookmark [www.aapmr.org/pmrbold](http://www.aapmr.org/pmrbold) to your browser, as we will post updates and additional opportunities to get involved. This will include additional opportunities in more practice areas including pain medicine, pediatric rehabilitation, cancer rehabilitation medicine, and medical homes/neighborhoods. Together, let’s thrive in the future health care landscape!