



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**May 30, 2023**

**AMA, IHI, other collaborators launch nationwide equity coalition for systemic change, structural impact across health care**

*New initiative aims to unite individuals, organizations toward making health equity actionable*

CHICAGO and BOSTON – The American Medical Association (AMA), the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI), and Race Forward today called for a system-wide approach to health equity, formally announcing the launch of [Rise to Health: A National Coalition for Equity in Health Care](#). A first-of-its-kind initiative co-led by the two organizations and supported by numerous collaborators including Race Forward, the Rise to Health Coalition is centered around the vision of creating a transformed health care ecosystem where everyone has the power, circumstances and resources to achieve optimal health.

In response to a lack of alignment around impactful strategies and actions to advance equity in health care, the Rise to Health Coalition invites individuals and organizations to work together in coordinated action to align health care for health.

“Launching the Rise to Health Coalition represents another big step in our journey to ground the AMA, health care, and our nation’s health care system around equity with a vision of achieving optimal health for all,” said AMA President Jack Resneck Jr., M.D. “As leaders in medicine, we know that ending systemic racism in health care will help end health inequities for everyone. The unique, cohesive national strategy behind Rise to Health Coalition will help make progress in advancing racial justice across health care and eliminating inequities in the health of each one of our patients.”

To meaningfully advance its vision, the Coalition is designed to:

- Mobilize and equip individuals, health care organizations, and health care industry actors with concrete skills and tools;
- Sustainably change mindsets and narrative within health care, and;
- Influence and fundamentally change policy, payment, education, standards, and practices.

“The Rise to Health Coalition is making health equity actionable. We are decidedly and urgently moving beyond describing the problem of health inequities to creating real results for real people. Measurably moving the needle is the only way we will grow this movement and convince even the most cynical skeptics that, together, we can bring about meaningful, sustainable improvement,” said IHI President and CEO Kedar Mate, M.D. “We are also making explicit the inseparable links between quality and equity. We believe there is no quality in health care without equity.”

Through specific aligned activities, the Rise to Health Coalition will unite health sectors for greater impact—catalyzing pillars of health care organizations, individual physicians and other health care professionals, payers, pharmaceutical, research, and biotech organizations, and professional societies to work collaboratively in prioritizing health equity and addressing systemic disparities. As a first step, members publicly commit via the Coalition’s website to taking actions to improve health care access, workforce diversity, social and structural drivers of health, and quality and safety of care. Examples of actions include eliminating race-based clinical algorithms (professional societies), identifying inequities through harm event reporting (individual practitioners), addressing inequities by using quality and safety methods (health care organizations), advancing equitable benefits, networks and incentives (payers), and creating access and affordability for therapeutics (pharma/biotech/research).

In addition, the Coalition will cultivate for members numerous tools to support individuals and organizations in advancing, strengthening, and aligning current health equity efforts—routinely refreshing resources, programs, and opportunities such as virtual peer-to-peer learning, networking, and technical assistance support as solutions continue to resurface.

The Rise to Health Coalition is open for anyone to participate, regardless of involvement in the targeted health care sector audiences. To learn more about the Rise to Health Coalition, [click here](#).

The Rise to Health Coalition gratefully acknowledges founding supporters Genentech, a member of the Roche Group; the Commonwealth Fund; the American Medical Association (AMA); and the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) for their generous funding support.

###

#### **About the Rise to Health Coalition**

The Rise to Health Coalition is a national health equity initiative co-led by the American Medical Association, the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, and other industry collaborators that are on a mission to improve patient health outcomes—making health care better for all. The Coalition consists of members from across the health care system, including health care organizations and professionals, payers, pharmaceutical, research, and biotech organizations, and professional societies that are committed to taking specific actions on issues related to health care access, social and structural drivers of health, workforce diversity, and quality and safety of care. Join the Coalition and learn more at [www.RiseToHealthEquity.org](http://www.RiseToHealthEquity.org).

#### **About the American Medical Association**

The American Medical Association is the physicians’ powerful ally in patient care. As the only medical association that convenes 190+ state and specialty medical societies and other critical stakeholders, the AMA represents physicians with a unified voice to all key players in health care. The AMA leverages its strength by removing the obstacles that interfere with patient care, leading the charge to prevent chronic disease and confront public health crises, and driving the future of medicine to tackle the biggest challenges in health care. For more information, visit [ama-assn.org](http://ama-assn.org).

#### **About the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI)**

The Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) is an independent not-for-profit organization based in Boston, Massachusetts, USA. For more than 30 years, IHI has used improvement science to advance and sustain better outcomes in health and health systems across the world. IHI brings awareness of safety and quality to millions, catalyzes learning and the systematic improvement of care, develops solutions to previously intractable challenges,

and mobilizes health systems, communities, regions, and nations to reduce harm and deaths. IHI collaborates with a growing community to spark bold, inventive ways to improve the health of individuals and populations. IHI generates optimism, harvests fresh ideas, and supports anyone, anywhere who wants to profoundly change health and health care for the better. Learn more at [ihi.org](http://ihi.org).