

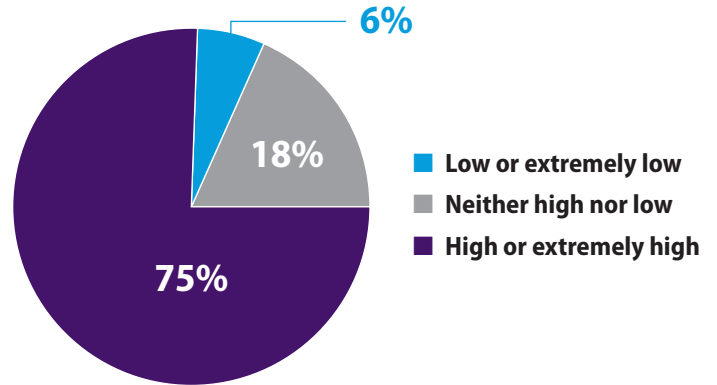
2016 AMA Prior Authorization Physician Survey

Survey Methodology

- 24-question, web-based survey administered in December 2016
- Sample of 1000 practicing physicians drawn from M3 panel
- 40% primary care physicians/60% specialists
- Sample screened to ensure that all participating physicians:
 - Are currently practicing in the United States
 - Provide 20+ hours of patient care per week
 - Complete prior authorizations (PAs) during a typical week of practice

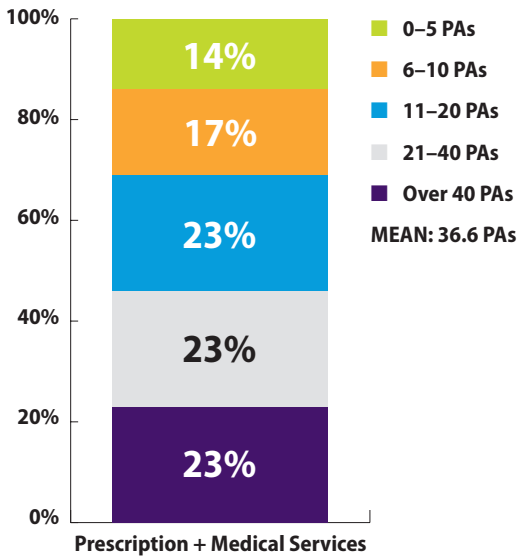
Physician Perspective on PA Burdens

Question: How would you describe the burden associated with PA for the physicians and staff in your practice?



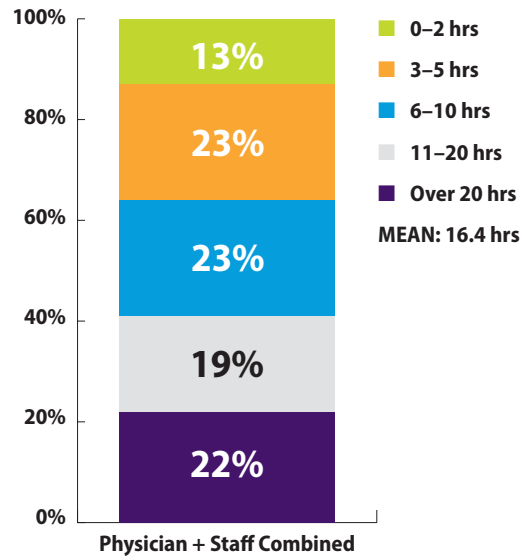
Number of PAs Per Week

Question: Please provide your best estimate of the number of prescription and medical services PAs completed by you yourself and/or your staff for your patients in the last week. Do not include PAs that practice staff completed for the patients of other physicians in your practice.



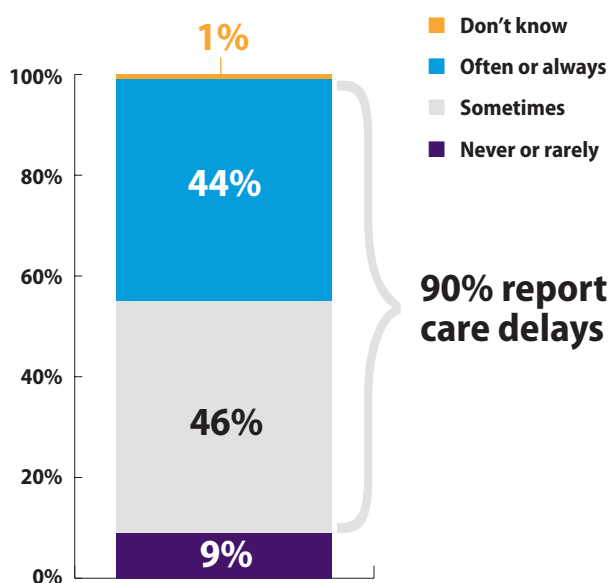
Hours Spent on PA Per Week

Question: Thinking about all of the PAs you and your staff completed in the last week, please provide your best estimate of the number of hours spent on processing these PAs.



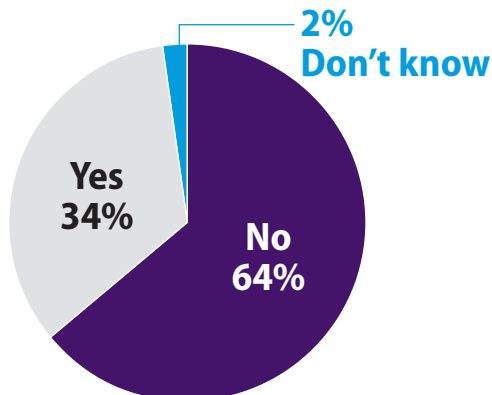
Care Delays Associated With PA

Question: For those patients whose treatment requires PA, how often does this process delay access to necessary care?



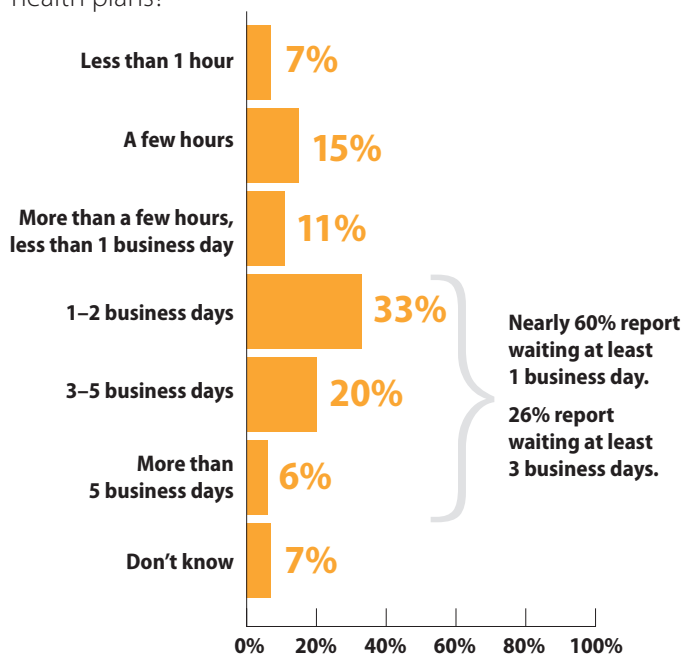
PA Staffing Burdens

Question: Do you have staff members who work exclusively on PAs?



Average Wait Time for PA Responses

Question: In the last week, how long on average did your practice need to wait for a PA decision from health plans?



Other Key Takeaways

- Surveyed physicians reported that **79%** of their PA requests are eventually **approved**
 - **72%** approved on initial request
 - **7%** approved on appeal
- **Eighty percent** reported they are **sometimes, often, or always required** to repeat PAs for prescription medications when a patient is stabilized on a treatment for a chronic condition
- Most commonly reported ways for completing both medical and prescription PAs were **fax** and **telephone**

For information on the AMA's advocacy efforts and resources to reduce PA burdens, please visit ama-assn.org and search for "prior authorization."