

June 16, 2025

VIA ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION

The Honorable Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.  
Secretary  
Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Kennedy,

On behalf of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP), I write to voice our concern regarding the dismissal of the 17 sitting members of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). ACOFP is the professional organization representing more than 26,000 practicing osteopathic family physicians, residents, and students throughout the United States who are deeply committed to advancing our nation's health by improving health care delivery and outcomes and ensuring that patients have access to high-quality care.

An important aspect of primary care includes the administration of vaccines. Vaccines have been proven to be safe and effective and are critical to protect patients from life-threatening illnesses and diseases.

ACOFP recognizes the importance of CDC's ACIP in providing scientific and evidence-based vaccine recommendations to protect patients from infectious diseases. Ensuring the accessibility of safe and effective vaccines is critical for public health and safety as well as ensuring patients receive the best possible care.

We are concerned that the dismissal of the entire ACIP panel will cause confusion and risk increasing the incidence of vaccine hesitancy. On the frontlines of health care, osteopathic family physicians see firsthand the adverse impact of illnesses that could have been prevented with vaccinations and strongly believe more must be done to educate the public on the safety and effectiveness of vaccines. ACIP plays a critical role in these efforts.

Thank you for your commitment to prioritizing public health and evidence-based medicine. Should you need any additional information or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact ACOFP at [advocacy@acofp.org](mailto:advocacy@acofp.org) or (847) 952-5100.

Sincerely,

*Gautam J. Desai, DO, FCOFP dist.*

Gautam J. Desai, DO, FCOFP *dist.*  
ACOFP, President