



Interstate Medical Licensure Compact

imlcc.org

INFORMATION RELEASE

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The Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Commission (“IMLCC”) has received several inquiries regarding concerns about physicians who are licensed in multiple states and how the U.S. Supreme Court’s June 24, 2022 decision regarding the reversal of *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S.113 (1973) in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*, 597 U.S. ____ (2022) will impact the provision of medical care.

There are 3 protections provided by the Compact’s licensing process under the terms of the IMLC and IMLC Rules:

First – The patient is protected. The care received is based on the medical practice act in the state where the patient is located at the time they are receiving care. The long-standing paradigm of medical care, reaffirmed by the Compact, is that the practice of medicine takes place where the patient is located regardless of whether it is an in-person or telemedicine encounter. Therefore, the provisions of the medical practice act of the state where the patient is located must be followed.

Second – The physician is protected. The physician must be licensed in the state where the patient is located and receiving care. That license is used to provide care to the patient and is governed by the medical practice act of the patient’s state of residence and where the physician was issued the license pursuant to the Compact. A physician who holds licenses in multiple states, must determine the location of every patient where the care is rendered in order to determine the applicable license and medical practice act under which care is being rendered. As an example, a patient located in Texas must receive care allowed by a Texas medical license and the Texas medical practice act; while a patient located in Colorado must receive care authorized by a Colorado medical license and the Colorado medical practice act.

Third – The state is protected. Because of the provisions of the Compact as enacted, each state is assured that the licenses issued by their respective compact member state board, whether via the Compact process or traditional (single state licensure) process. The terms of the Compact place the same obligation to comply with each member state’s medical practice act when treating patients in their respective state. Each state has the sole authority over the practice of medicine within its borders as established by its own medical practice act and licensure and discipline processes. The principles of medical licensure portability and sovereignty of each member state’s medical practice act remains unchanged.

Please contact:

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