

David Evans

CEO Texas Neurology

David Evans is CEO of Texas Neurology, a North Texas medical facility providing diagnostic services and patient care in all areas of neurological treatment and care, among the largest and most comprehensive neurology practices in the country. He is extremely active in the American Academy of Neurology, where he currently serves as Chair of the Brain Health Committee and Chair of the Health Policy Subcommittee.



As the overseer of such a large practice, he has an unobstructed view of the efficacy of the Texas step therapy reform law and is confident that when a Texas provider is aware of the law and follows it correctly that the process works well and patients are able to access the drugs they need. But it took time for the state to work out their implementation and enforcement process and for providers to understand how to file an appeal.

“When we were first filing appeals after the law passed, we were not getting responses in a timely manner, so we ended up filing several complaints with the Texas Department of Insurance. The Department really responded to our concerns and their support for the law has made a huge difference in resolving issues. Now in Texas, if you exhaust all processes and the payer is still not following the law, DOI will schedule a mediation meeting.”

Because his role takes him to conferences and meetings throughout the country, he is exposed to how step therapy reform laws are working in other states. “I always share how well the law is working in Texas, but I meet too many providers who don’t know how it’s working in their state, even though most of their states have now passed legislation. I try to suggest easy steps for how to submit concerns. I really urge them to use standardized forms in their efforts. I gave a talk in Houston and one of the audience members was in a pharmacy. She wondered if she could submit a step therapy exception request on behalf of her patients. She emailed me two weeks later and said the law is really working for them”

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Mr. Evans believes that education is paramount, for patients, providers, and admin staff. He is committed to using his leadership position to continue to push for advocacy at the federal level to ensure employer plans also provide a step therapy exception process, and to push for education at the state level to help patients and providers access their rights. Mr. Evans believes the path forward includes partnerships with organizations and coalitions that advocate for strong legislation, and to co-market educational materials, and implementation tools to help providers navigate state laws.