

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON ETHICAL AND JUDICIAL AFFAIRS*

CEJA Report 9-A-09

Subject: Secret Shopper Patients

Presented by: Regina M. Benjamin, MD, Chair

- 1 At the 2008 Interim Meeting of the AMA House of Delegates, the Council on Ethical and Judicial
2 Affairs presented Report 3-I-08, "Secret Shopper Patients," which addressed ethical issues in
3 relation to the use of "secret shopper patients" pursuant to Resolution 11 (A-07), "Secret Shopper
4 Patients are Unethical and Utilize Resources."
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6 The Report, originally presented at the 2008 Annual Meeting and revised in light of testimony
7 heard at that time, proposed guidelines for ethically appropriate use of "secret shopper patients"
8 under carefully limited conditions. In light of further testimony heard at the 2008 Interim Meeting
9 the Council has decided to withdraw the report. Withdrawal of CEJA Report 3-I-08 does not mean
10 that CEJA will not reconsider the topic in the future, only that no Opinion will be issued at this
11 time.
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13 The Council would like to thank all those providing testimony at the 2008 Annual and Interim
14 Meetings.

* Reports of the Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs are assigned to the reference committee on Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws. They may be adopted, not adopted, or referred. A report may not be amended, except to clarify the meaning of the report and only with the concurrence of the Council.