

## REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON ETHICAL AND JUDICIAL AFFAIRS

CEJA Report 5-A-07

Subject: Radio Frequency ID Devices in Humans

Presented by: Robert M. Sade, MD, Chair

Referred to: Reference Committee on Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws  
(Richert E. Quinn, Jr., MD, Chair)

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*The following recommendations were adopted as AMA Ethics Policy at the 2007 Annual Meeting of the AMA House of Delegates. The full report may be available online at <http://www.ama-assn.org/go/cejareports> or upon request by calling (312) 464-4823.*

### RECCOMENDATION

The Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs recommends that the following be adopted and the remainder of the report be filed.

Radio frequency identification (RFID) devices may help to identify patients, thereby improving the safety and efficiency of patient care, and may be used to enable secure access to patient clinical information. However, their efficacy and security have not been established. Therefore, physicians implanting such devices should take certain precautions:

- (1) The informed consent process must include disclosure of medical uncertainties associated with these devices.
- (2) Physicians should strive to protect patients' privacy by storing confidential information only on RFID devices with informational security similar to that required of medical records.
- (3) Physicians should support research into the safety, efficacy, and potential non-medical uses of RFID devices in human beings.

(NEW HOD/CEJA Policy)