



Nancy H. Nielsen, MD, PhD

President-elect
American Medical Association

Nancy H. Nielsen, MD, PhD, an internist from Buffalo, N.Y., was elected president-elect of the American Medical Association (AMA) in June 2007. Previously, Dr. Nielsen served four terms as speaker of the AMA House of Delegates (HOD) and three terms as vice speaker. She is a delegate from New York and served two terms on the AMA Council on Scientific Affairs.

Dr. Nielsen worked with colleagues on the Council on Scientific Affairs to help formulate policy positions for AMA-HOD debates on the diagnosis and treatment of depression, alcoholism among women, Alzheimer's disease, priorities in clinical preventive services, colorectal cancer screening, asthma control, nicotine content of cigarettes and safety in dispensing prescriptions.

Among other AMA positions, Dr. Nielsen has served as a member of the National Patient Safety Foundation board of directors, the Commission for the Prevention of Youth Violence, and the Task Force on Quality and Patient Safety. She currently serves as a delegate to the AMA Medical School Section, and she is a liaison to the Council on Medical Education. In 2002 Dr. Nielsen was appointed to serve on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Advisory Committee on Regulatory Reform. She is the AMA representative on several quality initiatives, including the National Quality Forum, the AMA-convened Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement®, and the Ambulatory Care Quality Alliance. She serves on the Institute of Medicine's Roundtable on Evidence Based Medicine, and on the Consumer Empowerment Committee of America's Health Information Community.

Dr. Nielsen was speaker of the Medical Society of the State of New York House of Delegates and a member of the board of directors of the Medical Liability Mutual Insurance Company—one of the largest malpractice carriers in the country. She has also served as president of her county medical society and of her hospital's medical staff.

Dr. Nielsen holds a doctorate in microbiology and received her medical degree from the State University of New York (SUNY) at Buffalo School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, where she is clinical professor of medicine and senior associate dean for medical education. She has served as a trustee of SUNY and as a member of the board of directors of Kaleida Health—a five-hospital system in western New York.

Dr. Nielsen, who was born and raised in West Virginia, is the mother of five children.

2007–2008

