Resolution: 708
(A-18)

Introduced by: Ohio

Subject: Arbitrary Paperwork and Signature Deadlines for Hospital and Rehabilitation Unit Admission

Referred to: Reference Committee G
(Theodore A. Calianos, II, MD, Chair)

Whereas, Regulations for Medicare admissions to acute care hospitals and inpatient rehabilitation units include arbitrary paperwork and signature deadlines; and

Whereas, An entire rehab stay has been denied by reviewers because a document was signed an hour too late; and

Whereas, An entire acute hospital admission has been denied because a verbal admission order was not signed before discharge; and

Whereas, These arbitrary deadlines are not related to the medical necessity of the admission; and

Whereas, Denials based on time frame of signature are unfair to the patient, physician and hospital as the denial is based on a technical issue, not on true medical necessity of the procedure or admission; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association work to change admission order signature timeframe regulations at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to be consistent with timeframe regulations for other verbal and telephone orders. (Directive to Take Action)

Fiscal Note: Not yet determined

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