Whereas, The prior authorization process for durable medical equipment for power wheelchairs and other equipment has turned into a process based on time frames and arbitrary deadlines rather than medical necessity; and

Whereas, Denials occur when all the appropriate paperwork does not arrive within a specific limit timeframe regardless of whether the paperwork is complete and comprehensive; and

Whereas, Denials based on arbitrary time frames are unfair to patients who desperately need the equipment and physicians who are doing their best to justify the equipment; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association advocate that denials of prior authorization for durable medical equipment must be based on true medical necessity not arbitrary time limits or other paperwork issues (New HOD Policy); and be it further

RESOLVED, That our AMA continue to work to improve the prior authorization process for Medicare Managed Care Plans. (Directive to Take Action)

Fiscal Note: Not yet determined

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