Whereas, Cost of medications is important for the care of patients; and
Whereas, Many patients do no fill medications due their cost; and
Whereas, The health of patients is in part dependent on the ability of the patient to continue their medication program; and
Whereas, The cost often precludes the ability of achieving improved health; and
Whereas, The cost of brand vs generic medication can be decreased by the ability of the patient to cut higher dose pills prescribed to meet their medication dose requirement; and
Whereas, Cutting a larger dose pill can allow the patient to adjust the dose requirement prescribed by their physician at a lower cost to the patient, requiring less payment due to fewer pills disbursed; therefore be it
RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association advocate that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration require scoring of all tablets and pills depending on their composition, so that the patient may be able to dose adjust their medication number requirement as prescribed by their physician at a lower cost to the patient. (New HOD Policy)

Fiscal Note: Not yet determined
Received: 10/23/18

RELEVANT AMA POLICY

Medication Scoring H-115.973
Our AMA: (1) recommends to pharmaceutical manufacturers that, when appropriate, tablets be scored on both sides and so constructed that they will more readily divide in half and not fragment upon attempts at division; and (2) opposes third party policies that mandate the use of pill-splitting or pill-breaking to reduce pharmaceutical or healthcare costs without proper input from the pharmaceutical manufacturers and practicing physicians.
Citation: (Res. 510, A-95; Appended: Sub. Res. 513, A-00; Reaffirmed: CSAPH Rep. 1, A-10)