AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution: 1
(I-17)

Introduced by: International Medical Graduates Section

Subject: House Physicians Category

Referred to: Reference Committee __________
____________, Chair

Whereas, In order to practice clinical medicine in an unsupervised setting, all physicians
(international medical graduates and domestic graduates) must be licensed by the medical
licensing board of the State where they plan to practice; and

Whereas, International Medical Graduates (IMGs) must be certified by the Educational
Commission on Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) and must pass USMLE Steps 1, Step
2CK and Step 2 CS; and

Whereas, When a physician receives ECFMG certification, he/she may apply for an ACGME
accredited residency; and

Whereas, Many ECFMG-certified IMGs are waiting to get into a residency program, but are
unable to obtain a residency due to the limited number of residency slots available; and

Whereas, A significant shortage of primary care physicians is predicted ranging between 8,700
and 43,100 physicians by 2030;¹ which will further impact the availability of physicians and
health care providers to care for patients in underserved areas of the United States;² and

Whereas, the Florida State Medical Board has implemented policies and laws to allow hospitals
to employ physicians who have limited medical licenses as “house physicians” to work under
the direct supervision of a physician who has an active Florida medical license and provide care
to patients³; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the American Medical Association work with state legislators and other
regulatory organizations to develop the category of “House Physicians” to help address the
anticipated physician need and shortfall of available practitioners in underserved areas of the
United States. (Directive to Take Action)

References:

This document does not represent official policy of the American Medical Association (AMA). Refer to AMA PolicyFinder at www.ama-assn.org/go/policyfinder for official policy of the Association.
RELEVANT AMA POLICY

None.