

**POLICY PROCEEDINGS OF THE 2019 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
AMA ORGANIZED MEDICAL STAFF SECTION**

RESOLUTIONS

**1. Patient Medical Marijuana Use in Hospitals
Introduced by the Oklahoma State Medical Association OMSS**

OMSS Action: Alternate resolution adopted in lieu of Resolution 1:

PATIENT MEDICAL MARIJUANA USE IN HOSPITALS

RESOLVED, That the OMSS Delegate be instructed to support the intent of AMA Resolution 414-A-19, Patient Medical Marijuana Use in Hospitals, and seek referral with report back at the 2019 Interim Meeting.

HOD Action: Resolution 414 referred but without a date certain report back.

**2. Military Physician Reintegration into Civilian Practice
Introduced by Massachusetts Medical Society OMSS**

OMSS Action: Resolution 2 adopted as amended and transmitted to the AMA House of Delegates for consideration at the 2019 Annual Meeting:

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association develop recommendations to inform local credentialing bodies of pathways to facilitate the process for military veteran physicians and surgeons to return to civilian practice without compromising patient care.

HOD Action: Alternate resolution adopted in lieu of Resolution 717:

REENTRY INTO PHYSICIAN PRACTICE

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association encourage hospitals to establish alternative processes to evaluate competence, for the purpose of credentialing, of physicians who do not meet the traditional minimum volume requirements needed to obtain and maintain credentials and privileges; and be it further

RESOLVED, That our AMA encourage The Joint Commission and other accrediting organizations to support alternative processes to evaluate competence, for the purpose of credentialing, of physicians who do not meet the traditional minimum volume requirements needed to obtain and maintain credentials and privileges.

**3. EHR-Integrated PDMP Rapid Access
Introduced by Massachusetts Medical Society OMSS**

OMSS Action: Resolution 3 adopted and transmitted to the AMA House of Delegates for consideration at the 2019 Annual Meeting:

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association advocate, at the state and national levels, to promote Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) integration/access within Electronic Health Record workflows (of all developers/vendors) at no cost to the physician or other authorized health care provider.

HOD Action: Resolution 244 adopted.

4. Restrictive Covenants of Large Health Care Systems
Introduced by Medical Society of the State of New York OMSS

OMSS Action: Resolution 4 adopted as amended and transmitted to the AMA House of Delegates for consideration at the 2019 AMA Annual Meeting:

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association, through its Organized Medical Staff Section, educate medical students, physicians-in-training, and physicians entering into employment contracts with large health care system employers on the dangers of aggressive restrictive covenants, including but not limited to the impact on patient choice and access to care; and be it further

RESOLVED, That our AMA study the impact that restrictive covenants have across all practice settings, including but not limited to the effect on patient access to health care, the patient-physician relationship, and physician autonomy, with report back at I-19.

HOD Action: Resolution 026 adopted.

5. Abuse of Volume Based Metrics
Introduced by Pennsylvania Medical Society OMSS

OMSS Action: Alternate resolution 5 adopted in lieu of Resolution 5 and transmitted to the AMA House of Delegates for consideration at the 2019 AMA Annual Meeting:

ECONOMIC DISCRIMINATION IN THE HOSPITAL PRACTICE SETTING

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association actively oppose policies that limit a physician's access to hospital services based upon the number of referrals made, the number of procedures performed, the use of any and all hospital services or employment affiliation.

HOD Action: Resolution 718 referred.

6. Gender Equity in Hospital Medical Staff Bylaws
Introduced by OMSS Governing Council

OMSS Action: Resolution 6 adopted and transmitted to the AMA House of Delegates for consideration at the 2019 Annual Meeting:

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association affirm that hospital medical staff bylaws should promote, and not impede, gender equity in their implementation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That our AMA study existing hospital medical staff bylaws as to how they impact on issues of gender equity, directly or indirectly, and suggest any addition(s) to its model bylaws to assure this issue is properly addressed, and gender equity affirmed.

HOD Action: Resolution 025 adopted.

**7. Sensible Appropriate Use Criteria In Medicare
Introduced by Massachusetts Medical Society OMSS**

OMSS Action: Resolution 7 adopted as amended and transmitted to the AMA House of Delegates for consideration at the 2019 Annual Meeting:

RESOLVED, That our AMA Policy H-320.940, "Medicare's Appropriate Use Criteria Program," be amended by addition as follows:

Our AMA will continue to advocate to delay the effective date of the Medicare AUC Program until the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services can adequately address technical and workflow challenges with its implementation and any interaction between the Quality Payment Program (QPP) and the use of advanced diagnostic imaging appropriate use criteria, and support regulatory change that resolves technical and workflow challenges and/or removes barriers to modifying or aligning the AUC Program and the QPP.

HOD Action: Resolutions 245 and 247 referred for decision.

ACTIONS ON OMSS GOVERNING COUNCIL REPORTS

The following reports were presented by David Welsh, MD, Chair:

Report A: OMSS Handbook Review – House of Delegates Resolutions & Reports

*Refer to annotated House of Delegates reference committee reports for final adopted language:
<https://www.ama-assn.org/house-delegates/annual-meeting/business-ama-house-delegates-annual-meeting>*

1. Resolution 010 – Covenants Not to Compete

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to support the intent of Resolution 010.

HOD Action: Resolution 010 referred.

2. Resolution 111 – Practice Overhead Expense and the Site-of-Service Differential

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to support the intent of Resolution 111.

HOD Action: Resolutions 111 and 132 referred for decision.

3. Resolution 127 – Eliminating the CMS Observation Status

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to support the intent of Resolution 127.

HOD Action: Resolution 127 adopted.

4. Resolution 205 - Use of Patient or Co-Worker Experience/Satisfaction Surveys Tied to Employed Physician Salary

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to support the intent of Resolution 205.

HOD Action: Current policy reaffirmed in lieu of Resolution 205.

5. Resolution 226 – Physician Access to their Medical and Billing Records

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to support the intent of Resolution 226.

HOD Action: Resolution 226 referred.

6. Resolution 237 – Opportunities in Blockchain for Healthcare

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to support the intent of Resolution 237.

HOD Action: Resolution 237 adopted as amended to provide the AMA more flexibility in working with future public and private sector partners.

7. Resolution 209 – Mandates by ACOs Regarding Specific EMR Use

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to seek referral of Resolution 209.

HOD Action: Current policy reaffirmed in lieu of Resolution 209.

8. Resolution 305 – Lack of Support for Maintenance of Certification

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to support the intent of Resolution 305.

HOD Action: Current policy reaffirmed in lieu of Resolution 305.

9. Resolution 308 – Maintenance of Certification Moratorium

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to support the intent of Resolution 308.

HOD Action: Resolution 308 referred.

10. Resolution 311 – Grandfathering Qualified Applicants Practicing in U.S. Institutions with Restricted Medical Licensure

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to support the intent of Resolution 311.

HOD Action: Resolution 311 referred.

11. Resolution 402 – Bullying in the Practice of Medicine

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to support the intent of Resolution 402.

HOD Action: Resolution 402 referred.

12. Resolution 412 – Regulating Liquid Nicotine and E-Cigarettes

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to support the intent of Resolution 412.

HOD Action: Current policy reaffirmed in lieu of Resolution 412.

13. Resolution 525 – Support for Rooming-in of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Patients with their Parents

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to Seek amendment of the first Resolve as follows:

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association support those practices which are currently believed to be best practices with respect to neonatal abstinence syndrome keeping patients with neonatal abstinence syndrome with their parents or legal guardians in the hospital throughout their treatment, as the patient's health and safety permits, through the implementation of rooming-in programs (New HOD Policy);

HOD Action: Resolution 525 adopted as amended. Rooming-in policy supported as the patient's health & safety permits; Decisions to be supported by validated risk stratification tools for rooming-in programs.

14. BOT Report 10 – Conduct at AMA Meetings and Events

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to support the intent of BOT Report 10.

HOD Action: BOT Report 10 adopted and the remainder of the report filed.

15. Resolution 612 – Request to AMA for Training in Health Policy and Health Law

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to support the intent of Resolution 612.

HOD Action: Resolution 612 referred.

16. Resolution 604 – Engage and Collaborate with The Joint Commission

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to oppose the intent of Resolution 604.

HOD Action: Resolution 604 not adopted.

17. Resolution 617 – Disabled Physician Advocacy

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to support the intent of Resolution 617 and seek amendment as follows:

DISABLED PHYSICIAN ADVOCACY FOR PHYSICIANS WITH DISABILITIES

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association study and report back on eliminating stigmatization and enhancing inclusion of ~~disabled~~ physicians with disabilities including but not limited to:

- (1) Enhancing representation of ~~disabled~~ physicians with disabilities within the AMA.
- (2) Examining support groups, education, legal resources and any other means to increase the inclusion of physicians with disabilities in the AMA (Directive to Take Action); and be it further

RESOLVED That our AMA identify medical, professional and social rehabilitation, education, vocational training and rehabilitation, aid, counseling, placement services and other services which will enable ~~disabled~~ physicians with disabilities to develop their capabilities and skills to the maximum and will hasten the processes of their social and professional integration or reintegration. (Directive to Take Action); and be it further

RESOLVED, That our AMA support programs that educate physicians with or without disabilities about legal rights of physicians, employees, and patients with disabilities to accommodation and freedom from discrimination.

HOD Action: Resolution 617 adopted as amended with a change in title. Substance of OMSS amendments adopted. HOD changes were minor and strictly editorial.

18. BOT Report 15 – Physician Burnout and Wellness Challenges; Physician and Physician Assistant Safety Net; Identification and Reduction of Physician Demoralization

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to support the intent of BOT Report 15.

HOD Action: BOT Report 15 adopted as amended and the remainder of the report filed. Recommendation #3 of B of T Report 15 amended to add three points, all of which address the AMA's current focus on addressing burnout through an organizational (not personal) focus.

19. CMS Report 7 – Hospital Consolidation

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to support the intent of CMS Report 7.

HOD Action: CMS Report 7 adopted as amended and the remainder of the report filed. AMA is directed to work with interested state associations to monitor rural, state and regional markets.

20. CMS Report 11 – Corporate Investors

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to support the intent of CMS Report 11.

HOD Action: CMS Report 11 adopted as amended and the remainder of the report filed. Recommendation added asking the AMA to support consideration of options for information gathering and the impact of private equity and corporate investors on the practice of medicine.

21. Resolution 705 – Physician Requirements for Comprehensive Stroke Center Designation

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to support the intent of Resolution 705.

HOD Action: Resolution 705 not adopted.

22. Resolution 706 – Hospital Falls and “Never Events” - A Need for More in Depth Study

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to support the intent of Resolution 706.

HOD Action: Alternate resolution adopted in lieu of Resolution 706. Alternate resolution directs the AMA to work with interested state medical associations and national medical specialty societies to support research regarding the feasibility and impact of removing patient falls with injury from Medicare’s list of “never events”.

**Report AA: OMSS Position on Board of Trustees Report 13-A-19:
Employed Physician Bill of Rights and Basic Practice Professional Standards**

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to support the intent of the recommendations of BOT Report 13-A-19.

HOD Action: BOT Report 13 adopted as amended and the remainder of the report filed. The amendment made clear that a physician should only have to disclose relevant (not all) financial information for the position for which he/she is being considered.

**Report BB: OMSS Position on Board of Trustees Report 32-A-19:
Impact of High Capital Costs of Hospital EHRs on the Medical Staff**

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to seek referral with a report back at the 2019 Interim Meeting that addresses the impact of the high capital costs of hospital EHRs on physicians not employed by hospitals.

HOD Action: BOT Report 32 adopted and the remainder of the report filed.

**Report CC: OMSS Position on Council on Medical Education Report 6-A-19:
Study of Medical Student, Resident, and Physician Suicide**

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to seek amendment of Recommendation 4 by addition of a time-certain for report back at the 2020 Annual Meeting.

HOD Action: CME Report 6 adopted as amended in lieu of Resolutions 307 and 310 and the remainder of the report filed. The amendments did not address a time certain for a report back.

**Report DD: OMSS Position on Council on Medical Service Report 8-A-19:
Group Purchasing Organizations and Pharmacy Benefit Manager Safe Harbor**

OMSS Action: OMSS Delegate instructed to support the intent of the recommendations of CMS Report 8-A-19, and seek amendment by the addition of a new Recommendation 6 as follows:

6. That our AMA collaborate with medical specialty partners, patient advocacy groups, and other stakeholders to seek repeal of the 2003 Safe Harbor protection to the Medicare Anti-Kickback Statute for Pharmacy Benefit Managers.

HOD Action: CMS Report 8 adopted as amended with the addition of a new recommendation and the remainder of the report filed. OMSS recommendation not adopted. HOD adopted a different recommendation #6 that directs the AMA, via letter, to ask the HHS Secretary to request the HHS Office of Inspector General (OIG) to examine the state of prescription drug purchasing and availability, and expeditiously make recommendations designed to make prescription drugs more accessible and affordable to patients, with a special focus on drugs in short supply and/or that are exceedingly expensive, to ensure compliance with all the safe harbor provisions.
