AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution: 402
(A-22)

Introduced by: New York
Subject: Support for Impairment Research
Referred to: Reference Committee D

Whereas, There has been a proliferation of new and designer recreational drugs, most of which are difficult to detect; and

Whereas, One of the leading causes of motor vehicle operator (driver) impairment is fatigue without substance use or abuse; and

Whereas, There are no biochemical or physiological assays for fatigue, akin to breathalyzer readings for ethanol, leading to undercounting and under appreciation of its relevance; and

Whereas, Evidence is lacking for reliable and reproducible methods of impairment assessment unrelated to the few easily detectable intoxicants; and

Whereas, The United States Department of Defense (DOD), the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), and the Institute of Medicine (IOM) have conducted extensive research on neurocognitive testing to assess alertness and impairment; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association study the impairment of drivers and other operators of mechanized vehicles by substances, fatigue, medical or mental health conditions, and that this report include whether there are office or hospital-based methods to efficiently and effectively assess impairment of drivers with recommendations for further research that may be needed. (Directive to Take Action)

Fiscal Note: Modest - between $1,000 - $5,000

Received: 03/22/22

References:
1. Human Performance Under Sustained Operations
2. Identifying Cognitive State from Eye Metrics
3. NASA’s Evidence Reports on Human Health Risks
5. Operational Neuroscience – Neuropsychological Measures in Applied Environments
6. Task Performance and Eye Activity – Predicting Behavior Relating to Cognitive Workload
7. World Anti-Doping Agency – Athlete Biological Passport Guidelines