

# Speakers' Letter

2022 Annual Meeting of the AMA House of Delegates  
June 10–15, 2022 Hyatt Regency Chicago

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The following information is provided to aid your planning for the upcoming Annual Meeting in Chicago. We would particularly like to call your attention to the health and safety information (p. 2), childcare at CampAMA, including the children's health and safety requirements (p. 5), details about the elections, particularly nominations during the Opening Session (p. 6) and the election session on Tuesday, June 14 (p. 6).

Please call 312.464.4463, send an email to [hod@ama-assn.org](mailto:hod@ama-assn.org) or visit [ama-assn.org/hod-annual-meeting](http://ama-assn.org/hod-annual-meeting) if you have questions regarding any of the following items or questions on American Medical Association (AMA) policy. Previous communications from your Speakers are on the AMA website at [ama-assn.org/house-delegates/annual-meeting/2022-annual-meeting-hod-speakers-updates-overview](http://ama-assn.org/house-delegates/annual-meeting/2022-annual-meeting-hod-speakers-updates-overview). Watch the Annual Meeting website for updates to this *Speakers' Letter*.

Bruce A Scott, MD, Speaker  
Lisa Bohman Egbert, Vice Speaker

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## House of Delegates schedule

The 2022 Annual Meeting of the AMA House of Delegates (HOD) will meet June 10–15 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago. The AMA-HOD will convene at 5:30 p.m. Friday, June 10 in the Grand Ballroom, and your Speakers ask that delegates be seated by 5:20 p.m. Our Friday start is due the anticipated volume of business at this, our first in-person meeting since San Diego in November 2019. We anticipate that the Opening Session will run for about two hours, including the debate among candidates for president-elect.

On Saturday, June 11, the “Second Opening” of the AMA-HOD will be in session from 12:30 to approximately 1 p.m. to receive items of business, consider acceptance of late resolutions, and extract informational reports and items from the reaffirmation consent calendar. Reference committee hearings will begin at 1 p.m., or 15 minutes after the conclusion of the Second Opening and continue until completed. Six reference committees will meet concurrently on Saturday afternoon: the Reference Committee on Amendments to Constitution & Bylaws as well as Reference Committees B, C, D, F, and G. The two remaining reference committees, A and E, will get underway on Sunday morning at 8 a.m. Reference committee subjects are as follows:

- |   |                   |   |                            |
|---|-------------------|---|----------------------------|
| A | Medical service   | E | Science and technology     |
| B | Legislation       | F | AMA governance and finance |
| C | Medical education | G | Medical practice           |
| D | Public health     |   | Constitution & Bylaws      |

Consideration of reference committee reports will begin at 10 a.m. Monday, June 13 and go until 6 p.m. that day. Additional business sessions will convene at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, June 14 and 8 a.m. Wednesday, June 15. Wednesday's session will run as long as necessary. We implore you to schedule departures for the late afternoon of Wednesday so that you can give full consideration to the business debated that day.

Delegates and alternate delegates may request special accommodations (eg, an assistive listening device) by contacting the Office of House of Delegates Affairs by email at [hod@ama-assn.org](mailto:hod@ama-assn.org) or phone 312.464.4344.

Watch for updates to this *Speakers Letter* on the meeting [website](#)!

## Meeting details and reminders

### Handbook distribution

The initial handbook will be posted on the Annual Meeting website by May 11 as a single large document as well as in a set of smaller documents collated by reference committee. The addendum will be posted about May 18, and when it is posted, both the original handbook and the addendum will be available separately along with a combined document that interleaves the two. An abridged handbook containing only the recommendations from reports and the resolve clauses from resolutions will also be available as a Word document and as a Google document.

Hardcopy handbooks will be mailed by May 17 to delegates and alternate delegates who have previously received paper copies, with the addendum scheduled to go out on or about May 24. Primary distribution of the handbook and addendum will be by download from the Annual Meeting [website](#).

### Health and safety considerations

Your Board of Trustees adopted the following health and safety protocol that will be in place for the House of Delegates and all section meetings. Please be aware that this protocol is the minimum requirement, while noting that your Board continues to monitor the environment and may implement more stringent requirements. This protocol applies to ALL attendees, including section members, delegates, alternate delegates and all guests, including Federation staff and spouses. No one will be allowed on the meeting floor or in the meeting rooms without meeting these requirements. Note also that children attending CampAMA must meet distinct requirements (see page 5). Should the Board amend this protocol, a communication will be sent to the House and Federation.

All attendees at the section and House of Delegates meetings:

1. Must be up to date with respect to their COVID-19 vaccinations. “Up to date” corresponds to the CDC recommendations in effect on April 2, 2022.
  - a) For US citizens, this means having received their COVID-19 primary series vaccine AND, if eligible, (at least) one booster. The vaccine must have been authorized or approved by the FDA.
  - b) For international guests, this means a vaccine approved by the World Health Organization.
  - c) As per AMA Policy (H-440.970, “Nonmedical Exemptions from Immunizations”), medical exemptions will be honored. No other exemptions will be allowed. Persons seeking a medical exemption must contact [vaxExempt@ama-assn.org](mailto:vaxExempt@ama-assn.org) by May 15 for instructions.
2. Must agree to self-administered COVID-19 rapid antigen tests, upon arrival and a second test 72 hours after the first test, with a negative test result in order to continue participating in the meetings
  - a) Individuals whose test positive should self-isolate and may not participate further in the meetings.
  - b) Any individual who develops symptoms should retest and not participate further until a negative result is confirmed.
  - c) Attendees are encouraged to test prior to departure from home to avoid unnecessary travel.
3. Must agree to adhere to any additional requirements adopted by the Board of Trustees, the CDC, the city of Chicago or state of Illinois in effect at the time of the meeting.

All attendees will be required to appear at the Health & Safety Desk (H&S Desk) to obtain their COVID self-tests and attestation card for each individual in their party. After completing their COVID tests, the attendee must return to the H&S Desk with completed health questionnaire and required attestations before they will be allowed to proceed to the AMA Registration Desk.

Attendees are expected to wear masks and are encouraged to bring well-fitted masks for their personal use. A limited supply of KN95 masks will be available at the meeting. Similarly, a limited supply of additional COVID-19 rapid tests will be available for those wishing to test beyond the two required tests. Attendees, particularly those with guests, are encouraged to bring a supply of tests for their personal use. **The final decision regarding masks is found on the [protocol page](#).**

More details regarding health and safety at the meeting can be found on the Speakers' update page of the AMA website at [ama-assn.org/house-delegates/annual-meeting/2022-annual-meeting-hod-april-22-speakers-update](https://ama-assn.org/house-delegates/annual-meeting/2022-annual-meeting-hod-april-22-speakers-update).

### Registration

Because of health and safety considerations, all attendees must register online before arriving in Chicago. If attending the HOD meeting only, go to [ama-assn.org/house-delegates/annual-meeting/2022-annual-meeting-ama-house-delegates](https://ama-assn.org/house-delegates/annual-meeting/2022-annual-meeting-ama-house-delegates) and sign in with your member ID. Those who are also attending a section meeting should register for the appropriate section meeting(s), which will also register them for the House of Delegates meeting. Attendees should register only once.

All meeting attendees—delegates, alternate delegates, AMA and Federation staff, guests—must appear at the Health & Safety Desk before proceeding to the AMA Registration Desk for the House of Delegates or section meetings. The Health & Safety Desk will be located in the East Tower, Lobby Level, of the Hyatt Regency. Upon completing the necessary attestations, you will be given an identifier, which must be shown to the security officers to gain entry to the lower level and then presented at the AMA Registration Desk to receive your badge. The House of Delegates Registration Desk will be on the lower level in the Grand Foyer as usual.

For security purposes, all attendees will be required to provide photo identification at the AMA Registration Desk to receive their credentials and other materials. Registration will open Wednesday morning (~10:30 a.m.) and daily (starting at 7 a.m.) from Thursday, June 9 through Wednesday, June 15.

Please note that badges must not be adorned with ribbons, pins, or any other paraphernalia, as the badge will include security features that the security officers must be able to see for you to enter all meeting areas.

Delegates and alternate delegates should check with their sponsoring society well ahead of their arrival in Chicago to ensure that their names have been submitted to the Office of House of Delegates Affairs. Under AMA bylaws all delegates and alternate delegates must be credentialed by the society that they will represent before each meeting. Individuals whose credentials have not been confirmed prior to the Annual Meeting will have to be accompanied to the AMA Registration Desk by an officer of their society in order to register.

Delegates and alternate delegates must be **credentialed by their sponsoring society**. Each delegate and alternate delegate must **personally register** through CVENT for this meeting. Please note that these are unique processes and that sponsoring societies should not attempt to register delegates and alternates via CVENT.

### Seating at this House of Delegates meeting

*Seating for the Opening Session:* We hope to allow for more space between attendees as part of our health and safety protocols, and the Opening Session of the House always has the largest attendance. To accommodate all Opening Session participants, seating for that session will be theater style. That is, the usual delegate seating area with its draped tables will not be set up for the Opening Session. Delegates will have priority seating in the front of the House, but the seating will otherwise be open on a first-come, first-served basis. We ask that you refrain from saving seats and respect the physical distance between chairs. During the session, we will be joined by international guests as well as young scholars being recognized by the AMA Foundation for whom we will try to hold space. We thank you in advance for your patience and cooperation.

*Seating for business sessions:* For the remaining business sessions, delegates will have assigned seats at draped tables in the front of the House as usual but with increased distance between individuals. The remaining space will be set theater style. We must note, however, 693 delegates must be accommodated, which means the open seating will be limited.

Auxiliary seating will be available in the Riverside Exhibit Hall, which is accessed by going down the escalators outside the Grand Ballroom (near Grand Hall, the former Columbus Rooms). At the bottom of the escalator, turn left. (The staff area is to the right at the bottom of the escalators.) Monitors will be set up to view the proceedings.

*Seating in reference committee hearings:* Because we will be encouraging physical distancing, each reference committee hearing will be assigned more space, and the hearings will necessarily be spread across the hotel. As we go to press, the following areas will be used for hearings: Grand Ballroom, Regency A/B, Regency C/D, Crystal B/C, Grand Hall I/J (formerly Columbus I/J), and the Riverside Exhibit Hall. Again, we ask that you respect the seat spacing.

Note that six (6) reference committees will be held simultaneously on Saturday afternoon. Given the earlier start of the HOD on Monday morning, this schedule was implemented with the hope that the majority of reference committee reports will be available on Sunday to maximize the time available for caucus review. This also allows for meeting space to be available Sunday morning in the event that a reference committee hearing is not completed on Saturday. Your Speakers are aware that this may present a challenge, particularly for smaller delegations wishing to testify on items in multiple reference committees. We strongly encourage all individuals to participate in the Online Forum. In addition, we will once again be projecting the current item under discussion for each reference committee in all hearing rooms.

### **Meeting attire**

Your Speakers have determined that business casual dress is appropriate for the Annual Meeting, although business attire is requested for those seated on the dais during HOD business sessions. Unlike our recent virtual meetings, business casual dress does not include fuzzy slippers or pajama bottoms. Business / cocktail attire, black tie optional, is appropriate for the inaugural, president's dinner reception, and dance.

### **Conflict-of-interest policy**

Your Speakers have received inquiries about conflicts of interest and the HOD process for disclosing and managing conflicts. Your Speakers, together with the Office of General Counsel offer the following guidance which is also detailed in the updated House of Delegates Reference Manual.

Immediately prior to testifying before the House or a reference committee, every individual must publicly disclose their actual or potential conflicts of interest, if any. A disclosable "conflict of interest" is an interest that is or may be material to the matter being considered and that would reasonably be expected to impair the objectivity of the individual who is testifying. Conflicts of interest, however, do not include an interest that results solely from the fact the testifying individual is a physician or medical student, in recognition that most testifying individuals have the same interest. When in doubt as to whether a conflict of interest exists or is disclosable, your Speakers recommend that individuals err on the side of caution and disclose any actual or potential conflicts to preserve the integrity of our process.

Upon disclosure of any conflicts of interest, an individual may testify without encumbrance. A delegate who thinks or knows that a testifying individual has an undisclosed actual or potential conflict of interest may ask the Speakers of the House or the chair of the reference committee, as applicable, to have the testifying individual disclose their conflict. The Speakers or the chair, as applicable, have sole discretion to decide all matters related to the appropriate disclosure and management of conflicts of interests before the House or reference committee, respectively. The Speakers and reference committee chairs may consult the Office of General Counsel and appropriate others as needed to decide the matter.

Your Speakers have determined that this guidance also applies to resolutions introduced by delegations. The sponsoring delegation must disclose the identity of any delegate or alternate delegate who has a conflict of interest with respect to matters addressed in the resolution. If a conflict is disclosed, the notation on the resolution will not contain an individual delegate's name, but will state in substance that, "In accordance with House policy regarding disclosure of conflicts of interest, the delegation has notified the Speaker that one or more delegates has a conflict of interest with respect to the matters addressed in this resolution." For resolutions already submitted, please notify the AMA Office of House of Delegates Affairs.

**Code of conduct**

Our AMA has a robust code of conduct for AMA-sponsored meetings to ensure a professional and ethical environment for all attendees. Importantly, everyone should feel safe and able to participate without fear of unwelcome conduct. Attendees should conduct themselves in a manner that is attune to the highest ideals of the profession. As a condition of attending and participating in any meeting all attendees must agree to adhere to this Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct extends beyond formal sessions to include all dinners, receptions, and social gatherings held in conjunction with AMA-hosted meetings.

The Office of General Counsel will appoint a “Conduct Liaison” for all AMA House of Delegates meetings and all other AMA-hosted events. The Conduct Liaison will have responsibility for receiving reports of alleged policy violations, conducting investigations, and initiating both immediate and longer-term consequences for such violations. Alternatively, violations may be reported using an AMA reporting hotline (telephone and online) maintained by a third party on behalf of the AMA.

At the Opening Session of all House of Delegates meetings, the Code of Conduct is ratified as a part of our Standing Rules. AMA policy and further details regarding the Code of Conduct can be accessed at [ama-assn.org/codeofconduct](http://ama-assn.org/codeofconduct).

Our standing rules, which are ratified in the Opening Session, commit each of us to be courteous, respectful, and collegial in the conduct of HOD business. Instances of unwelcome or inappropriate behavior should be brought to the attention of the Speakers, and everyone has the personal responsibility, while engaging with others, to consider how others will interpret their actions and words.

**Childcare services**

Our AMA is providing childcare, but to ensure sufficient, qualified help, parents must make a reservation for childcare by May 20. Drop-ins will not be accepted. Children who are at least 6 months old are eligible for this service. Parents are responsible for their children’s meals and must administer any medications. The vendor, Accent on Children, is fully licensed, and caregivers have considerable experience in working with children. Staff to child ratios range from 1:2 for infants to 1:8 for school-age children.

*Health and safety for childcare:* The following health and safety protocols have been established by the Board of Trustees and stem from discussions with parents who had previously used the childcare services at House of Delegates meetings.

1. Advance registration will be required for all children planning to attend CampAMA. No “walk ups” can be accommodated.
2. Any child with a fever or exhibiting other symptoms of illness should not participate in CampAMA. Children who become ill during the day must be picked up by their parent(s) upon notification.
3. All children eligible for vaccination (ages 5 and older) will be required to have proof of vaccination or medical exemption signed by their pediatrician or primary care physician.
4. All children over age 2 will be expected to wear a mask except while actively eating or drinking in designated areas. Parents need to bring an adequate supply of appropriately sized masks. AMA will have available a limited number of child-size masks.
5. All children over age 2 must have a negative COVID-19 test upon arrival and a second test 72 hours after the first test with a negative result to participate in CampAMA. A negative COVID-19 test is also required to return to CampAMA should the child have symptoms consistent with COVID-19 or receive a diagnosis of COVID-19. Parents will be asked to attest to the result of testing. Any child testing positive after May 31 should not participate in CampAMA. Parents are encouraged to bring COVID-19 test supplies.

## **2022 candidates, nominations, and elections**

The [2022 Election Manual](#) has been updated and is available online. It includes statements from all announced candidates for June's elections as well as a link to the conflict-of-interest disclosures that are required by House policy. The updated manual provides links to candidate webpages on the AMA website for those candidates who chose to create such pages. Candidate webpages are new this year. The election manual is freely accessible, but conflict-of-interest disclosures are available only to members, who must login to view them.

*Policy G-610.020, Rules for AMA Elections:* The rules for AMA elections were substantially revised last June, and all members of the House are encouraged to review the current policies. Many formerly accepted practices are no longer permitted. The rules limit the activities conducted by or on behalf of the candidate.

*Candidate Interviews:* Many groups have sent contact information for candidates to schedule interviews for the upcoming elections. As a reminder, caucuses and delegations may choose to conduct virtual or in-person interviews. The HOD Office has developed a centralized official list of contact persons for the interviewing groups and for the candidates to simplify the process of scheduling for both caucuses and campaigns. The deadline to schedule virtual interviews has passed, but groups wishing to conduct in-person interviews June 10-13 at the meeting are reminded of the **May 27 deadline** to submit their contact information and identify which contests for which they wish to interview to [hod@ama-assn.org](mailto:hod@ama-assn.org). It is the responsibility of the candidates to contact the groups' designated person to arrange an interview. Candidates may not schedule interviews with groups that are not on the official list.

*Nominations:* Nominations for all offices will be accepted during the Opening Session on Friday evening, June 10. Under our new rules, that is the only time that nominations will be accepted, so anyone who anticipates the possibility of seeking election during the Annual Meeting must be nominated on Friday evening. Once nominations are closed there will be no further opportunity for nominations even if an election results in a newly opened seat. Any delegate—not an alternate delegate unless temporarily credentialed as a delegate—may make a nomination. Only the name of the nominee and the office to be sought should be stated. Nominating speeches or a listing of the nominee's qualifications will be ruled out of order, except that officer candidates in contested elections will be expected to give their own self-nominating speech of not more than two minutes duration.

House policy requires that all nominees complete a conflict-of-interest form prior to election. Individuals who anticipate the possibility of being nominated during the Opening Session should contact Roger Brown in the Speakers' Office ([roger.brown@ama-assn.org](mailto:roger.brown@ama-assn.org), or phone 312.464.4344). Inquiries will be maintained in confidence.

*AMA Candidates Reception:* Last year's rules changes were adopted to level the playing field for all candidates, particularly those from smaller delegations with fewer resources. One of the changes will see our AMA sponsor a reception for candidates from 5 to 7 p.m. Sunday evening, June 12. The reception is open to all candidates, although not all have chosen to participate. Some candidates will be featured at other receptions. Candidates may be featured at only one reception. The AMA-sponsored reception is subject to the same rules as any other campaign reception. Instructions have been sent to all candidates. Everyone is invited to attend.

*Elections at A-22:* Elections will take place from 8 to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, June 14 during an Election Session in the House. All delegates should be seated in the House by 7:45 a.m. For this session, extra security will be employed, and only credentialed delegates will be allowed in the delegate seating area. The elections will be conducted using the handheld response units along with a special voting card that will have to be inserted into the device. Voting will proceed sequentially starting with the office of president-elect and concluding with various council races. Once the voting for an office has concluded, balloting for the next office will proceed; voting in a previous race will not be possible, which is why delegates need to be present at the beginning of the session.

Only duly credentialed delegates are permitted to cast a ballot. If a delegate will be unable to participate in the Election Session, an alternate delegate must be properly re-credentialed as a delegate at the AMA Registration

Desk by 6 p.m. Monday, June 13. The change from alternate delegate to delegate must be approved by a duly authorized officer of the society in question; see bylaws 2.10.4 and 2.10.4.1.

The following races will be determined, unless previously elected by acclamation:

- President-elect – vote for one, currently three candidates
- Speaker – vote for one, currently one candidate
- Vice Speaker – vote for one, currently one candidate
- At-large trustee – vote for four, currently five candidates; potential for one additional opening (a fifth)
- Young physician trustee – vote for one, currently one candidate
- Council on Constitution & Bylaws – vote for two, currently three candidates
- Council on Medical Education – vote for one, currently two candidates
- Council on Medical Service – vote for four, currently five candidates
- Council on Science & Public Health – vote for three, currently five candidates; potential for one additional opening (a fourth)

*CEJA nomination and election*: President-elect Jack Resneck, MD, will nominate a member for a full term on the Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs during the Opening Session. The nominee's conflict-of-interest disclosure will be posted on the website after being nominated, and their election will be part of the Election Session on Tuesday, June 14.

### **Announcements of candidacy for 2023 elections**

Individuals who intend to seek election at the 2023 Annual Meeting are reminded that printed announcements may not be distributed in the meeting venue. Announcements provided to us before noon, Monday, June 13 will be projected on the last day of the meeting. An electronic announcement should be submitted to Roger Brown ([roger.brown@ama-assn.org](mailto:roger.brown@ama-assn.org)) in the Speakers' Office. The preferred format is JPG, but a PDF or PowerPoint slide is also acceptable. Announcements should be formatted for 16:9 projection in the House. Submissions will be maintained in confidence until projected. Announcements will be posted online on the candidate page after the meeting.

### **Inauguration of Jack Resneck, Jr, MD**

The inaugural ceremony to install Jack Resneck, Jr, MD, as the 177th AMA president will take place at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 14 in the Crystal Ballroom, followed by a reception and dinner/dance in the Grand Ballroom and Grand Hall at 6:45 p.m. Attire is business/cocktail, black tie optional.

The dinner will feature several themed food stations and open, reception-style seating, without assigned tables. Please be assured, tables will be plentiful, with an assortment of options throughout the expanded event space. We hope that the format change will improve the experience for all. Some benefits include flexible timing to transition between visiting with friends and colleagues and sitting down for dinner, open movement within the event space, and a variety of dining options instead of one plated meal for all.

Individuals wishing to participate in the reception and dinner/dance should coordinate reservations and payment with their sponsoring organization prior to the established deadline of June 3. No reservations/payments will be accepted after that date, and no onsite purchases will be available. Please note for this year, wristbands rather than tickets will serve as proof of purchase and will be required to gain entry to the event.

### **Online member forums**

Pursuant to Policy D-600.956, adopted at the November 2021 Special Meeting, commentary submitted to the online member forums will be used to generate a preliminary document to inform the discussion at the in-person reference committee hearings. The policy further specifies that the forums should be open no longer than 14 days. The forums will open May 17 and close May 31, which will allow the reference committees to develop and post their preliminary documents by June 7, before the meeting gets underway on June 10. The forums can be accessed directly at [ama-assn.org/forums/house-delegates](https://ama-assn.org/forums/house-delegates) or via the meeting [website](#). **Preliminary documents are posted on the business page.**

**Mentorship and financial support**

Medical students and residents/fellows are an integral part of our AMA and their voices are critical to our deliberative process. The integration of students and residents into the formalized state and specialty delegations provides valuable mentorship to and continued participation from these important members of our House. Our HOD has a historical commitment to supporting our student and resident/fellow delegates and alternate delegates. Delegations are encouraged to continue the financial support and active involvement of these members in their caucuses.

**Registry of retiring delegates and retiring medical executives**

A registry of delegates and alternate delegates who are retiring from the House and medical society executives who are retiring will be recognized during the meeting. Names may be faxed to 312.464.4505 or emailed to [hod@ama-assn.org](mailto:hod@ama-assn.org) prior to Monday, June 6. Otherwise, please provide names to the Headquarters Office in the Hyatt Regency by noon on Sunday, June 12.

**Airline discounts**

United Airlines is offering a discount at [united.com/meetingtravel](https://united.com/meetingtravel). To book flight reservations and receive a discount, visit the website and enter the offer code ZKHJ967696 in the Offer Code box along with your origin, destination, and travel dates. Available flights will be displayed. When an available flight is selected the discounted fare will automatically be calculated and applied at time of ticketing. The discount is valid for travel three days prior to and three days after the official meeting dates.

You may also call the United Meeting Reservation Desk at 800.426.1122 and provide the agent with the offer code ZKHJ967696. Booking fees are waived for meeting reservations.

**Car rental discounts**

Hertz, an AMA preferred provider, is offering a special discount for Annual Meeting attendees. Save up to 25% off the base rate + \$5 off per day (up to \$25 off) on rentals from O'Hare, Midway, or off-airport locations in Chicago. This offer is valid for bookings from May 2 for vehicle pick up June 6 through June 20, should you be coming early or staying beyond the meeting. [Book now](#) using CDP #11635 and Promotion Code #210758.

**Distribution of nonbusiness items**

Election rules no longer allow the distribution of campaign literature or gifts, so the not-for-official-business bag may not be needed this year. If you or your society have something you wish to have distributed to the House, we ask that you let us know ([hod@ama-assn.org](mailto:hod@ama-assn.org)) so that we can ensure bags are available. Your items must be delivered to the AMA's staff offices in the Hyatt Regency by close of business on Wednesday, June 8, although they will not be distributed in the House until Saturday.

**Proceedings of the November 2021 Special Meeting**

The [draft](#) of the *Proceedings of the House of Delegates* for this past November's Special Meeting (N21) has been posted on the AMA website. Approval of the minutes from N21 is an action item on Saturday morning. [PolicyFinder](#) has been updated to reflect actions from the meeting as captured in the *Proceedings*.

**Recording of AMA-HOD meetings**

Proceedings of AMA meetings may be recorded by audiotape, videotape or otherwise, for use by the AMA. Participation in/attendance at a meeting shall be deemed to confirm the participant's consent to recording and to the AMA's use of such recording.

**Reference Committee F volunteers sought**

Just after the Annual Meeting concludes, three new members will be appointed to Reference Committee F. The committee deals with AMA's governance and financial matters, including such things as the annual plan, budget, and business products, and is responsible for ensuring that the HOD has adequate information regarding the fiscal circumstances of the Association. While the typical reference committee exists only for a single meeting, members of Reference Committee F serve two-year terms and meet with the Board of Trustees



between HOD meetings, meaning their commitment is more substantial; in fact, the chair serves a third year in that capacity.

Like other reference committees, we rely on volunteers to serve on Reference Committee F, but the special role of the committee along with the matters that come before it and the longer term of service warrant a special appeal for those volunteers. We are inviting interested members of the House to let us know of their interest in serving on the committee by completing the [application](#) on the Speakers' page. If you have previously volunteered to serve on the committee, we ask that you confirm that interest so that our roster of volunteers is current. We will follow up with everyone who volunteers. We need to know of your willingness to serve on the committee by June 30, and appointments will be made in the first half of July. The full committee will meet with the Board of Trustees September 10–11 in Chicago.

### **HOD Reference Manual**

The *House of Delegates Reference Manual: Procedures, Policies and Practices* provides comprehensive information about the AMA's policy development process. It describes AMA-HOD procedures and may be especially helpful to new delegates, but it is a good reference for all meeting participants. Visit the meeting webpages to access the manual.

### **2022 Interim Meeting planning**

The 2022 Interim Meeting, with its focus on advocacy and legislation, will be held at the Hawaii Convention Center and Hilton Hawaiian Village Hotel in Honolulu, Nov. 12–15. Delegates and alternate delegates who are willing to serve on a reference committee at the Interim Meeting are asked to contact the Office of House of Delegates Affairs by completing the application [form](#) and stopping by the Headquarters Office at the Hyatt Regency or emailing [hod@ama-assn.org](mailto:hod@ama-assn.org) to let us know about your preferences for a reference committee assignment. The following reference committees will convene at the Interim Meeting:

- Reference Committee on Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws: Ethics, bylaws
- Reference Committee B: Legislative advocacy
- Reference Committee C: Advocacy related to medical education
- Reference Committee F: AMA governance and finance
- Reference Committee J: Advocacy related to medical service, medical practice, insurance and related topics
- Reference Committee K: Advocacy related to science and public health

*Speaker-to-speaker meeting plans:* After what will be a three-year hiatus, we intend to hold a speaker-to-speaker session at I-22. The session is open to anyone interested in discussing meeting processes; you need not be a speaker to participate. Topic suggestions may be sent to [hod@ama-assn.org](mailto:hod@ama-assn.org); all ideas are welcome.

## **Meetings and caucuses**

### **Section meeting news**

The [AMA section meetings](#) are being held in-person on June 9-10, 2022. Pre-registration (free for AMA members) is required. Visit each group's meeting page for meeting documents and for the most up-to-date information.

### **Obesity Caucus**

You are invited to attend the Obesity Caucus, which is open to all attendees. This group strives to improve health outcomes with regard to obesity and will meet from 3 to 4 p.m. Sunday, June 12 in the Toronto Room.

Our AMA has recognized obesity as a disease, researched the state of obesity education in training programs, supported access to evidence-based treatments, opposed barriers to care, and passed policy aimed at reducing bias and stigma towards those affected by obesity. Nevertheless, obesity levels continue to climb, insurance coverage for these evidence-based treatments remains sparse, and education remains spotty. Further, those living

with obesity have been disproportionately affected by the current COVID-19 pandemic, experiencing a higher rate of ICU admission, mechanical ventilation, and death.

Together, physicians have a unique opportunity to act through our AMA, which played a key role in helping Americans stop smoking, and the AMA is currently fighting to reduce deaths caused by the opioid epidemic. Similarly, by working together, the profession can make a difference in reducing morbidity and mortality from obesity, which is now estimated to affect over 40% of all Americans.

### **Educational programming**

Although time and space are limited at this year's Annual Meeting, we have arranged for a limited number of education sessions to be offered on Sunday afternoon. In addition, the AMA sections and special groups invite all meeting participants to attend any education sessions they are offering. Sessions designated for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*™ by our AMA are indicated by an asterisk (\*) below.

Discover additional opportunities to earn CME on the AMA Ed Hub™, our AMA's online learning platform bringing together high-quality education from the AMA, JAMA Network™ and other trusted sources.

Stop by the AMA Ed Hub booth located near the Grand Ballroom where staff can assist in claiming CME credits or navigating the site. At the booth, you can also test your knowledge with a short Clinical Challenge quiz from the JAMA Network™ and get more CME.

To claim credit for an AMA educational session you attend during the 2022 Annual Meeting, visit [ama-assn.org/A22](https://ama-assn.org/A22), log in with your AMA account (or create one for free!), make sure you enter the activity code provided at the live session on the relevant page, and take the CME quiz. The deadline to claim credit for sessions certified by the AMA is July 31, 2022.

#### [AMA CME Accreditation Information](#)

The American Medical Association is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The American Medical Association designates each live activity for the maximum number of *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*™ reflected with each session. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

### **AMA Council on Medical Education Stakeholders Forum**

Now via Zoom 3 –5 p.m. Friday, June 10

Hosted by the Council on Medical Education

The Council's forum is titled "Towards Competency-Based Medical Education." In 2014, AMA House of Delegates adopted Policy D-295.317, "Competency Based Medical Education Across the Continuum of Education and Practice," to study and identify challenges, opportunities, and critical stakeholders in achieving a competency-based curriculum across the medical education continuum. This policy also promotes collaboration with the AMA Accelerating Change in Medical Education initiative and other stakeholders to explore the implications of shifting from time-based to competency-based medical education. This session will educate the House of Delegates on lessons learned and current challenges to implementing competency-based medical education across the continuum in the United States and offer a collaborative space to move forward in support of students, residents, fellows, physicians, and ultimately the needs of patients today and in the future. The Council welcomes you to take part in this forum and contribute to the discussion. Please register for the event [here](#), and for more information, feel free to contact [Lena.Drake@ama-assn.org](mailto:Lena.Drake@ama-assn.org). The Zoom link will be sent to registrants.

### **Operationalizing racial justice for equitable health systems**

1:30 – 2:30 p.m. Sunday, June 12, Grand Ballroom

Hosted by the Center for Health Equity

The AMA’s Strategic Plan identified “pushing upstream to address all determinants of health” as one of the five strategic approaches to advance health equity. This presentation will provide an overview of the ways in which the AMA is working to 1) strengthen physicians’ understanding of public health and structural/social drivers of health and inequities; 2) empower physicians and health systems to dismantle structural racism and intersecting systems of oppression; and 3) equip physicians and health systems to improve services, technology, partnerships, and payment models that advance public health and health equity.

### **Embed equity in innovation: *In Full Health* initiative and centering equity in health tech solutions**

2:30 – 3:30 p.m. Sunday, June 12, Grand Ballroom

Hosted by the Center for Health Equity

*Ensuring Equity in Innovation* is one of the five strategic approaches defined in the AMA’s Organizational Strategic Plan to Embed Racial Justice and Embed Health Equity. This session will provide an overview and update of the [In Full Health](#) initiative that was launched in partnership with external advisors and collaborators in March. This initiative includes the Business Case and 5 Principles for Equitable Health Innovation, as well as the 10 Actions for Centering Equity in Health Innovation. For members who are engaged in solution design, implementation, or evaluation within their healthcare system, or who are involved or interested in health innovation, this session will provide tactical frameworks and action steps they can apply and take to their work to embed equity in a constantly evolving health innovation ecosystem.

### **Medical Justice in Advocacy Fellowship - Advancing health equity**

3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Sunday, June 12

Hosted by the Center for Health Equity

The AMA is committed to designing and launching communities and opportunities in health care for equity leadership, action, and accountability and to expanding medical school and physician education to include equity. For this session, we will present an overview and update of the Medical Justice in Advocacy Fellowship, which was launched by the AMA and the Morehouse School of Medicine Satcher Health Leadership Institute in 2021 as part of the AMA’s Push Upstream approach to advancing equity. The first of its kind, this fellowship empowers and mobilizes physicians to be part of the next generation of advocacy leaders, driving meaningful policy and structural changes that produce equity and justice.

### **\*A playbook for saving hours each day**

1:30 – 2:30 p.m. Sunday, June 12, Crystal B/C

Hosted by Professional Satisfaction & Practice Sustainability

Almost half of a physician’s day is spent performing tasks that do not require an MD/DO degree. Addressing burnout, well-being, inefficiencies, and cultural change require TIME. Physicians are all too familiar with the additional tasks piled on them since adopting I systems. The urgency to find time to address meaningful and more structured interventions has been magnified by the impact of the COVID pandemic on the healthcare workforce. Given current labor shortages, the focus must be on removing unnecessary work in order to get back to ‘doctoring’. Seventy-eight percent of unnecessary tasks are under your local control. The AMA STEPS Forward™ team has developed a Saving Time Playbook to guide physicians to identify these unnecessary tasks, stop the overinterpretation of regulations and implement efficient workflows. The playbook highlights STEPS Forward toolkits, the AMA De-implementation Checklist, and the Debunking Regulatory Myths series.

The purpose of this workshop is to:

1. Stop doing unnecessary tasks and duplicative work that prevent the physician from meaningful work.

2. Incorporate practice fundamentals such as pre-visit planning and lab testing, team documentation and expanded rooming and discharge efforts.
3. Make the case to leadership by demonstrating the ROI (return on investment) with improved outcomes, lower cost of recruiting/replacing staff, physician well-being and patient access and satisfaction.

The American Medical Association designates this live activity for a maximum of 1 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*<sup>TM</sup>. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

### **Best practices for teaching sex and gender in medical school curricula**

Now via Zoom 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. Sunday, June 12

Hosted by the Council on Medical Education

Join the Council on Medical Education for a discussion on gaps in medical research and curricula and best practices for caring for and teaching about gender diverse patients, such as women (cisgender and transgender), transgender men and boys, non-binary people, and intersex people of all genders/people with intersex conditions. The Council welcomes you to take part in this discussion. Please register for the event [here](#), and for more information, contact [Lena.Drake@ama-assn.org](mailto:Lena.Drake@ama-assn.org). The Zoom link will be sent to registrants.

### **\*CEJA Open Forum**

2:30 – 4 p.m. Sunday, June 12, Crystal A

Hosted by the Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs

CEJA will conduct an Open Forum during which attendees are invited to introduce emerging ethical issues that may warrant attention from CEJA and inclusion in the *AMA Code of Medical Ethics*. The Open Forum will be open to all AMA members, interested non-members, other guests, and the press.

The forum topic is “Ethical Challenges of Physician Employment.” The full agenda for the Open Forum is available online at [ama-assn.org/go/ceja](http://ama-assn.org/go/ceja). It provides additional information on this topic, as well as instructions on how to submit testimony electronically. Written testimony submitted to the Council will be given the same consideration as oral testimony.

#### Learning Objectives

- Describe ethical tensions experience by employed physicians
- Explain the challenges of crafting ethics guidance for multiple stakeholders
- Identify new guidance needed to address ethical tensions in the context of physician employment

The American Medical Association designates this live activity for a maximum of 1.5 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*<sup>TM</sup>. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

### **Litigation Center Open Meeting**

2:45 – 4:15 p.m. Sunday, June 12, Crystal B/C

Hosted by the Litigation Center

Topics will include the AMA success in supporting the CMS vaccination mandate and securing a favorable Supreme Court decision. Also discussed will be the efforts of the Montana Medical Association to overturn a law that prohibits physicians and hospitals from requiring their employees to be vaccinated against COVID-19 or any other disease (including diseases not yet manifested to medical science).

**Special events****Catholic Mass**

Father Dan Costello will be with us again to celebrate Catholic Mass at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, June 11 in Grand J.

**AMPAC's Capitol Club Lunch**

The American Medical Association Political Action Committee (AMPAC) is the bipartisan political arm of the AMA that helps elect medicine-friendly candidates running for federal office. In this Election Year, AMPAC is excited to be hosting an in-person Capitol Club lunch for all 2022 members during the Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates.

Please plan to join us at noon on Tuesday, June 14 with special guest speaker Mara Liasson, National Political Correspondent for National Public Radio and Political Contributor at Fox News. With her finger on the pulse of Washington politics, Liasson will be discussing the political environment as we head into the November election. The event will run for one hour, allowing time for questions at the end.

All Capitol Club members will receive an invitation later this month with instructions on how to RSVP for the event. Please note that to participate in this member-only Capitol Club event, your AMPAC membership must be current for 2022. You can check your membership status by emailing [Lindsey.Shockley@ama-assn.org](mailto:Lindsey.Shockley@ama-assn.org) or by visiting AMPAC's booth during the Annual Meeting. You may also visit [www.ampaonline.org](http://www.ampaonline.org) to contribute.

Thank you for your generous support during this important 2022 Election Year!

**AMA Ambassador Program**

All AMA Ambassadors are invited to request to join the A-22 Meeting Ambassador [GroupMe app](#) (group text) for quick access to all A-22 meeting-related events and information for AMA Ambassadors. Information about the following events & activities will be shared via the GroupMe app:

- Activation app training for AMA content amplification
- Ambassador Lounge access
- Ambassador Reunion Reception
- #AMA175 meme & selfie challenges

If you would like to enroll in the AMA Ambassador Program, you may enroll here: [ama-assn.org/ambassadors](http://ama-assn.org/ambassadors). Questions should be directed to J. Mori Johnson by email to [jmori.johnson@ama-assn.org](mailto:jmori.johnson@ama-assn.org) or by phone at (773) 263-4255.

NOTES:



The following list is provided for your convenience.  
 All items mentioned in the *Speakers' Letter* are included.  
 (Items listed in bold are official AMA-HOD sessions, reference committees or programs.)  
 Activities offering continuing medical education credit are preceded by an asterisk (\*)

Time	Event	Location
<b>Thursday, June 9</b>		
7 a.m.-6 p.m.	Registration	Grand Foyer
<b>Friday, June 10</b>		
7 a.m.-6 p.m.	Registration	Grand Foyer
3-5 p.m.	Stakeholder forum: "Towards Competency-Based Medical Education"	Zoom (see text)
<b>5:30-7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>HOD Opening Session; nominations</b>	<b>Grand Ballroom</b>
<b>Saturday, June 11</b>		
7 a.m.-6 p.m.	Registration	Grand Foyer
<b>12:30- 1 p.m.</b>	<b>HOD second session</b>	<b>Grand Ballroom</b>
<b>1-5:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Reference Committee on Amendments to Constitution &amp; Bylaws</b>	<b>Crystal B/C</b>
<b>1-5:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Reference Committee B</b>	<b>Regency A/B</b>
<b>1-5:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Reference Committee C</b>	<b>Regency C/D</b>
<b>1-5:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Reference Committee D</b>	<b>Riverside East</b>
<b>1-5:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Reference Committee F</b>	<b>Grand Ballroom</b>
<b>1-5:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Reference Committee G</b>	<b>Grand Hall I/J</b>
6:30 p.m.	Catholic Mass	Grand Hall J
<b>Sunday, June 12</b>		
7 a.m.-6 p.m.	Registration	Grand Foyer
<b>8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Reference Committee A</b>	<b>Regency A/B</b> <b>Grand Ballroom</b>
<b>8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Reference Committee E</b>	<b>Regency C/D</b> <b>Riverside East</b>
1:30-2:30 p.m.	Operationalizing racial justice for equitable health systems	Grand Ballroom
1:30-2:30 p.m.	*A Playbook for Saving Hours Each Day	Crystal B/C
1:30-2:30 p.m.	Best practices for teaching sex and gender in medical school curricula	Zoom (see text)
2:30-3:30 p.m.	Embed equity in innovation: In full health initiative and centering equity in health tech solutions	Grand Ballroom
2:30-4 p.m.	*CEJA Open Forum	Crystal A
2:45-4:15 p.m.	Litigation Center Open Meeting	Crystal B/C
3-4 p.m.	Obesity Caucus	Toronto
3:30-4 p.m.	Medical Justice in Advocacy Fellowship - Advancing health equity	Grand Ballroom
<b>5-7 p.m.</b>	<b>AMA Candidates Reception</b>	<b>Regency Ballrooms</b>
<b>Monday, June 13</b>		
7 a.m.-6 p.m.	Registration	Grand Foyer
<b>10 a.m.-6 p.m.</b>	<b>HOD business session (with a break for lunch)</b>	<b>Grand Ballroom</b>
<b>Tuesday, June 14</b>		
7 a.m.-6 p.m.	Registration	Grand Foyer
<b>8-8:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Election session</b>	<b>Grand Ballroom</b>
<b>8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.</b>	<b>HOD business session (with a break for lunch)</b>	<b>Grand Ballroom</b>
Noon	AMPAC Capitol Club Lunch	
5:30 p.m.	Inaugural, Jack Resneck, Jr, MD	Crystal Ballroom
<b>Wednesday, June 15</b>		
7 a.m.-adjournment	Registration	Grand Foyer
<b>8:30 a.m.-conclusion</b>	<b>HOD business session</b>	<b>Grand Ballroom</b>