

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

B of T Report 02-A-24

Subject: New Specialty Organizations Representation in the House of Delegates

Presented by: Willie Underwood III, MD, MSc, MPH, Chair

Referred to: Reference Committee on Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws

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1 The Board of Trustees (BOT) and the Specialty and Service Society (SSS) considered the  
2 applications of the Academy of Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry, American College of Lifestyle  
3 Medicine, American Venous Forum, Association of Academic Psychiatrists, and Society for  
4 Pediatric Dermatology for national medical specialty organization representation in the American  
5 Medical Association (AMA) House of Delegates (HOD). The applications were first reviewed by  
6 the AMA SSS Rules Committee and presented to the SSS Assembly for consideration.

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8 The applications were considered using criteria developed by the Council on Long Range Planning  
9 and Development and adopted by the HOD (Policy G-600.020). (Exhibit A)

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11 Organizations seeking admission were asked to provide appropriate membership information to the  
12 AMA. That information was analyzed to determine AMA membership, as required under criterion  
13 three. A summary of this information is attached to this report as Exhibit B.

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15 In addition, organizations must submit a letter of application in a designated format. This format  
16 lists the above-mentioned guidelines followed by each organization's explanation of how it meets  
17 each of the criteria.

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19 Before a society is eligible for admission to the HOD, it must participate in the SSS for three years.  
20 These organizations have actively participated in the SSS for more than three years.

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22 Review of the materials and discussion during the SSS meeting at the November 2023 Interim  
23 Meeting indicated that the Academy of Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry, American College of  
24 Lifestyle Medicine, American Venous Forum, Association of Academic Psychiatrists, and Society  
25 for Pediatric Dermatology meet the criteria for representation in the HOD.

26  
27 **RECOMMENDATION**

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29 Therefore, the Board of Trustees recommend that the Academy of Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry,  
30 American College of Lifestyle Medicine, American Venous Forum, Association of Academic  
31 Psychiatrists, and Society for Pediatric Dermatology be granted representation in the AMA House of  
32 Delegates and that the remainder of the report be filed. (Directive to Take Action)

Fiscal Note: Less than \$500

APPENDIX  
Exhibit A

**GUIDELINES FOR REPRESENTATION IN & ADMISSION TO  
THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES:**

**National Medical Specialty Societies**

- 1) The organization must not be in conflict with the constitution and bylaws of the American Medical Association by discriminating in membership on the basis of race, religion, national origin, sex, or handicap.
- 2) The organization must (a) represent a field of medicine that has recognized scientific validity; and (b) not have board certification as its primary focus, and (c) not require membership in the specialty organization as a requisite for board certification.
- 3) The organization must meet one of the following criteria:
  - 1,000 or more AMA members;
  - At least 100 AMA members and that twenty percent (20%) of its physician members who are eligible for AMA membership are members of the AMA; or
  - Have been represented in the House of Delegates at the 1990 Annual Meeting and that twenty percent (20%) of its physician members who are eligible for AMA membership are members of the AMA.
- 4) The organization must be established and stable; therefore, it must have been in existence for at least 5 years prior to submitting its application.
- 5) Physicians should comprise the majority of the voting membership of the organization.
- 6) The organization must have a voluntary membership and must report as members only those who are current in payment of applicable dues are eligible to participate on committees and the governing body.
- 7) The organization must be active within its field of medicine and hold at least one meeting of its members per year.
- 8) The organization must be national in scope. It must not restrict its membership geographically and must have members from a majority of the states.
- 9) The organization must submit a resolution or other official statement to show that the request is approved by the governing body of the organization.
- 10) If international, the organization must have a US branch or chapter, and this chapter must be reviewed in terms of all of the above guidelines.

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF NATIONAL MEDICAL SPECIALTY ORGANIZATIONS**

1. To cooperate with the AMA in increasing its AMA membership.
2. To keep its delegate to the House of Delegates fully informed on the policy positions of the organizations so that the delegate can properly represent the organization in the House of Delegates.
3. To require its delegate to report to the organization on the actions taken by the House of Delegates at each meeting.
4. To disseminate to its membership information to the actions taken by the House of Delegates at each meeting.
5. To provide information and data to the AMA when requested.

***Exhibit B - Summary Membership Information***

<b>Organization</b>	<b>AMA Membership of Organization's Total Eligible Membership</b>
Academy of Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry	378 of 1,471 (26%)
American College of Lifestyle Medicine	974 of 3,937 (25%)
American Venous Forum	115 of 439 (26%)
Association of Academic Physiatrists	162 of 779 (21%)
Society for Pediatric Dermatology	154 of 564 (27%)