

AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION ORGANIZED MEDICAL STAFF SECTION

Resolution: 7
(A-26)

Introduced by: Matthew Gold, MD
Subject: Survey of Medical Staffs
Referred to: OMSS Reference Committee
(, MD, Chair)

1 Whereas, the core mission of the American Medical Association (AMA) is to promote the art and
2 science of medicine and the betterment of public health; the organization focuses on
3 empowering physicians to improve patient care, advancing medical science, and enhancing the
4 professional lives of doctors; and

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6 Whereas, among the most relevant categories of concern that have impact on the quality of,
7 cost, and access to medical care is the organizational structure of our hospitals and related
8 institutions; and

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10 Whereas, the Organized Medical Staff Section (OMSS) of the AMA serves as a representative
11 forum for physicians practicing in, or affiliated with, organized medical staffs. OMSS focuses on
12 issues related to hospitals and employed environments as well as independent physicians
13 interacting with hospital organizations, and provides a dedicated voice within the AMA to
14 advocate for, and address the unique needs of, these physicians and their patients; and

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16 Whereas, within recent decades, the nature of the physician-hospital relationship and dynamic
17 has evolved markedly. In order best to inform and direct the efforts of OMSS, and the AMA, to
18 optimize the care given, and safety within, this aspect of the healthcare system; it is imperative
19 better to understand the present constitution of medical staffs across the United States; and

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21 Whereas, there is a spectrum of different models within and between hospital organizations and
22 related caregiving institutions, which directly impacts on the influence physicians have over the
23 practice and direction of evolving medical care; therefore be it

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25 RESOLVED, that our American Medical Association sponsor a survey of sufficient statistical
26 power to determine the spectrum of composition and influence of the contemporary medical
27 staff across the United States, including but not limited to information such as:

- 28 • Is your hospital owned by a system, is it independent, or is it affiliated with a system?
- 29 • Do you have your own medical staff with officers? If part of a system, is there one
30 medical staff for the system or does each facility have its own?
- 31 • What are the categories of medical staff membership? Please define these.
- 32 • Are the officers appointed by the hospital or are they elected by the medical staff?
- 33 • Is there a medical staff executive committee (MEC) that meets regularly? How often?
34 Does it meet with hospital leadership? Do non-medical staff members have a vote on the
35 MEC?
- 36 • To what degree are independent physicians (solo, members of group organizations, etc)
37 versus employed physicians active in the administration of medical staff, i.e. involvement
38 in committees or ad hoc initiatives?

39 (Directive to Take Action).
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Fiscal Note: (Assigned by HOD)

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RELEVANT AMA POLICY

N/A