

AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION YOUNG PHYSICIANS SECTION

Resolution: (Assigned by HOD)  
(A-26)

Introduced by: Ray Lorenzoni, Rebekah Bernard, Christopher Garofalo, Gunjan Malhotra,  
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Subject: Adjusting Reimbursement Rates to Reduce Financial Incentives to Replace  
Physicians with Non-Physician Practitioners

Referred to: Reference Committee (Assigned by HOD)

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1 Whereas, under current Medicare policy, non-physician practitioners (NPPs) may bill for  
2 services at 85% of the physician fee schedule<sup>1,2</sup> despite often having only 15-20% of the formal  
3 medical education and supervised clinical training of physicians;<sup>3</sup> and  
4  
5 Whereas, NPP scope-of-practice expansions are often justified by presumed cost savings, but  
6 evidence that savings persists when considering the total downstream cost of care is limited  
7 with increasing evidence suggesting lower productivity and efficiency than physicians;<sup>4,5</sup> and  
8  
9 Whereas, physicians are responsible for complex medical decision-making compared to nurse  
10 practitioners and their younger healthier patient panels that often half as large;<sup>5,6,7,8</sup> and  
11  
12 Whereas, reimbursement policy should reflect differences in training, clinical responsibility,  
13 supervision, and impact on overall healthcare quality; and  
14  
15 Whereas, NPPs are seeking pay parity with physicians with recent legislative success in New  
16 Hampshire, Oregon, and Washington;<sup>9,10,11</sup> therefore be it  
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18 RESOLVED, that our American Medical Association advocates that CMS decrease the  
19 reimbursement rate for non-physician practitioners to better reflect their overall lower level of  
20 medical training, clinical responsibility, and efficiency compared to physicians.  
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Fiscal Note: (Assigned by HOD)

Received:

## REFERENCES

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2. Physician Assistants Fee Schedules. CMS.gov. Accessed: 3/30/2026 at [cms.gov/medicare/payment/fee-schedules/physician-fee-schedule/advanced-practice-nonphysician-practitioners/physician-assistants-pas](https://www.cms.gov/medicare/payment/fee-schedules/physician-fee-schedule/advanced-practice-nonphysician-practitioners/physician-assistants-pas)
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9. Concerning advanced practice registered nurse and physician assistant reimbursement, HB1430, 69<sup>th</sup> Washington Legislative Assembly (2025). [app.leg.wa.gov/billssummary?BillNumber=1430&Year=2025](http://app.leg.wa.gov/billssummary?BillNumber=1430&Year=2025)
10. Prohibiting health carriers from establishing payment or reimbursement provisions based solely on a participating advanced practice registered nurse's licensure. SB 556, 168<sup>th</sup> New Hampshire General Court (2024).
11. Relating to equal pay for health practitioners. HB2902, 77<sup>th</sup> Oregon Legislative Assembly (2013).

## RELEVANT AMA POLICY

H-35.962: Opposition to Licensing for Individuals Holding the Degree of Doctor of Medical Science  
H-35.966: Protecting Physician Led Health Care  
H-35.988: Independent Practice of Medicine by Advanced Practice Registered Nurses  
H-35.989: Physician Assistants  
H-160.906: Models / Guidelines for Medical Health Care Teams  
H-160.912: The Structure and Function of Interprofessional Health Care Teams  
H-160.949: Practicing Medicine by Non-Physicians