AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution: 011
(I-22)

Introduced by: Washington
Subject: Advocating for the Informed Consent for Access to Transgender Health Care
Referred to: Reference Committee on Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws

Whereas, Transgender and gender-diverse individuals experience several challenges in accessing appropriate health care, including gatekeeping and difficulty with insurance coverage; and

Whereas, Providing gender-affirming care is a medical necessity as determined by the World Professional Association for Transgender Health and supported by the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and several other medical organizations; and

Whereas, Gender-affirming health care improves quality of life, mental health, and overall well-being in gender-diverse people; and

Whereas, Currently, under the mainstream diagnostic model for transgender health, to be deemed eligible for gender transition services, transgender clients must meet criteria for a diagnosis of “gender dysphoria” as described in the DSM-5; and

Whereas, An alternative to that diagnostic model for transgender health is the informed consent model, which allows for clients who are transgender to access hormone treatments and surgical interventions without undergoing mental health evaluation or referral from a mental health specialist; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association advocate and encourage the adoption of an informed consent model when determining coverage for transgender health care services.

(Directive to Take Action)

Fiscal Note: Not yet determined

Received: 10/10/22

REFERENCES:

RELEVANT AMA POLICY

Healthcare Equity Through Informed Consent and a Collaborative Healthcare Model for the Gender Diverse Population H-140.824

Our AMA supports: (1) shared decision making between gender diverse individuals, their health care team, and, where applicable, their families and caregivers; and (2) treatment models for gender diverse people that promotes informed consent, personal autonomy, increased access for gender affirming treatments and eliminates unnecessary third-party involvement outside of the physician-patient relationship in the decision making process.
Citation: Res. 014, A-22