



**INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL GRADUATES SECTION
JUNE 2021 THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING
SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**

IMG SECTION (IMGS) AUTHORED RESOLUTIONS

REFERENCE COMMITTEE F

I. RESOLUTION 608 – SHARING COVID-19 RESOURCES

Resolutions 608, 609, 610 and 611 called upon the AMA to assist with the humanitarian crisis resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic through sharing supplies with countries that have limited resources. Testimony highlighted the importance of international cooperation to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and COVID-19 variants as well as to promote herd immunity globally. Speakers offered multiple approaches (e.g., vaccine donations, working with key stakeholders, etc.) to support the production and distribution of vaccines in other countries.

HOD ACTION: Alternate Resolution 608 adopted in lieu of Resolutions 608, 609, 610, and 611.

**PROMOTING EQUITABLE RESOURCE DISTRIBUTION
GLOBALLY IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

RESOLVED, That our AMA, in an effort to improve public health and national stability, explore possible assistance through the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX) initiative co-led by the World Health Organization, Gavi, and the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, as well as all other relevant organizations, for residents of countries with limited financial or technological resources where the cases of COVID-19 infection have been exponentially increasing (Directive to Take Action); and be it further

RESOLVED, That our AMA will work with governmental and appropriate regulatory bodies to encourage prioritization of equity when providing COVID-19 pandemic-related resources, such as diagnostics, low cost or free medications, therapeutics, vaccines, raw materials for vaccine production, personal protective equipment, and/or financial support (Directive to Take Action); and be it further

RESOLVED, That our AMA recognize the extraordinary efforts of many dedicated physicians, physician and ethnic organizations assisting in this humanitarian COVID-19 pandemic crisis. (Directive to Take Action)

RESOLVED, That our AMA support World Health Organization (WHO) efforts and initiatives to increase production and distribution of therapeutics and vaccines necessary to combat COVID-19 and future pandemics in order to provide vaccine doses to low and middle-income countries with limited access, including:

1. A temporary waiver of the Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property (TRIPS) agreement and other relevant intellectual property protections;
2. Technological transfers relevant for vaccine production;
3. Other support, financial and otherwise, necessary to scale up global vaccine manufacturing;
4. Measures that ensure the safety and efficacy of products manufactured by such means.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES REPORTS & RESOLUTIONS OF INTEREST

REFERENCE COMMITTEE C

II. COUNCIL ON MEDICAL EDUCATION REPORT 2 –LICENSURE FOR INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL GRADUATES PRACTICING IN U.S. INSTITUTIONS WITH RESTRICTED MEDICAL LICENSES (IMGS RESOLUTION 311-A-19)

The Reference Committee heard testimony in support of this report and its recognition of the needs and dedication of international medical graduates (IMGs). Regarding the first recommendation of the report, testimony noted concern for how “good standing” is being defined; however, the Reference Committee felt it will be addressed in the development of the criteria requested in this report. Testimony also questioned the meaning of “extensive U.S. medical practice” if an IMG is without a license or board certification.

HOD ACTION: Council on Medical Education Report 2 recommendations adopted as amended and the remainder of the report filed.

1. That our American Medical Association (AMA) advocate that qualified international medical graduates have a pathway for licensure by encouraging encourage state medical licensing boards and the member

boards of the American Board of Medical Specialties to develop criteria that allow 1) completion of medical school and residency training outside the U.S., 2) extensive U.S. medical practice, and 3) evidence of good standing within the local medical community to serve as a substitute for U.S. graduate medical education requirement for physicians seeking full unrestricted licensure and board certification. (Directive to Take Action)

2. That our AMA amend Policy H-255.988 (12), “AMA Principles on International Medical Graduates,” by addition to read as follows:

Our AMA supports ...12. The requirement that all medical school graduates complete at least one year of graduate medical education in an accredited U.S. program in order to qualify for full and unrestricted licensure. State medical licensing boards are encouraged to allow an alternate set of criteria for granting licensure in lieu of this requirement: 1) completion of medical school and residency training outside the U.S., 2) extensive U.S. medical practice, and 3) evidence of good standing within the local medical community. (Modify Current HOD Policy)

3. That our AMA amend Policy H-275.934 (2), “Alternatives to the Federation of State Medical Boards Recommendations on Licensure,” by addition to read as follows: 2. All applicants for full and unrestricted licensure, whether graduates of U.S. medical schools or international medical graduates, must have completed one year of accredited graduate medical education (GME) in the U.S., have passed all state-required licensing examinations (USMLE or COMLEX USA), and must be certified by their residency program director as ready to advance to the next year of GME and to obtain a full and unrestricted license to practice medicine. State medical licensing boards are encouraged to allow an alternate set of criteria for granting licensure in lieu of this requirement for completing one year of accredited GME in the U.S.: 1) completion of medical school and residency training outside the U.S., 2) extensive U.S. medical practice, and 3) evidence of good standing within the local medical community. (Modify Current HOD Policy)

4. That our AMA amend Policy H-160.949 (6), “Practicing Medicine by Non-Physicians,” by addition and deletion to read as follows: Our AMA ... (6) opposes special licensing pathways for “assistant physicians” (i.e., those who are not currently enrolled in an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education of ~~American Osteopathic Association~~ training program, or have not completed at least one year of accredited post-graduate US medical education in the U.S). (Modify Current HOD Policy)

5. That our AMA amend Policy H-275.978 (5), “Medical Licensure,” by addition to read as follows:

Our AMA ... (5) urges those licensing boards that have not done so to develop regulations permitting the issuance of special purpose licenses, with the exception of special licensing pathways for “assistant physicians.” It is recommended that these regulations permit special purpose licensure with the minimum of educational requirements consistent with protecting the health, safety and welfare of the public; (Modify Current HOD Policy)