

AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution: 020
(A-22)

Introduced by: International Medical Graduates Section

Subject: Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs Guidelines for Treating
Unvaccinated Individuals

Referred to: Reference Committee on Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws

1 Whereas, Medical ethics require physicians to treat every patient regardless of race, color,
2 ethnicity, or gender as well as disease itself; and
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4 Whereas, AMA's Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs (CEJA) guidelines do address ethical
5 guidelines in case of a pandemic, but they fail to address the current pandemic (COVID) effectively;
6 and
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8 Whereas, Many physicians have been infected with the corona virus and some have died during
9 care of infected patients; and
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11 Whereas, Only about 65% of the US population has been vaccinated for COVID-19. Many of the
12 minority populations have not been vaccinated at the same rate as whites; and
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14 Whereas, Both vaccinated and non-vaccinated individuals can get reinfected and transmit COVID-
15 19; and
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17 Whereas, The Wall Street Journal reported many physicians in several states have refused to
18 provide care to unvaccinated individuals in outpatient settings even with use of PPE; and
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20 Whereas, CEJA guidelines are the benchmark for medical ethics for most of the healthcare
21 institutions; therefore, be it
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23 RESOLVED, That the American Medical Association and the Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs
24 issue new ethical guidelines for medical professionals for care of individuals who have not been
25 vaccinated for COVID-19. (Directive to Take Action)

Fiscal Note: Modest - between \$1,000 - \$5,000

Received: 05/04/22

References:

Wallstreet Journal, "Is It Ethical for Doctors to Refuse to Treat Unvaccinated Patients?"; February 14, 2022;
<https://www.wsj.com/articles/doctor-physician-medical-ethics-covid-pa>