

2003 House of Delegates Action on Resolutions and Board Reports

Editor's Note: To read the complete text of resolutions and amendments, visit the members only section of our website: wisconsinmedicalsociety.org

Resolution 1 directs the Wisconsin Medical Society to collaborate with the state Department of Public Instruction to create a model policy that deals with bullying behaviors as defined in AMA H-60.943 for Wisconsin school districts to adopt. *Action: adopted the first resolve from the original resolution 1 in lieu of the substitute resolution.*

Resolution 2 directs the Wisconsin Medical Society to seek legislation to require private health insurance carriers to pay legitimate claims regardless of whether a workers compensation claim is pending, and that if it is later decided that the case is a workers compensation claim, then the workers compensation carrier would reimburse the private health insurance carrier with applicable accrued interest. *Action: substitute resolution, as amended by deletion and substitution, adopted in lieu of Resolution 2 and rescinded current policy INS-953 Pay and Chase.*

Resolution 3 directs to Society to educate politicians and the public about the loss of privacy that will result from the enactment of HIPAA and directs the Society to seek to repeal HIPAA, and if deemed appropriate, join with other organizations in legal action against HIPAA, and Resolution 4 directs the Society to strongly proclaim its respect for the patient-physician relationship and the confidentiality necessary for the relationship to work and directs that the Society must on principle object to any intrusion into that relationship by the state or other outside agencies on the basis of it being unethical. *Action: substitute resolution, as amended, adopted in lieu of Resolutions 3 and 4.*

Resolution 4: see action above.

Resolution 5 directs the Wisconsin Medical Society to reaffirm Wisconsin Medical Society policy LIA-969 and to aggressively oppose any legislative efforts to repeal or raise malpractice settlement caps on non-economic damages. *Action: substitute resolution adopted in lieu of Resolution 5.*

Resolution 6 directs that a legislative priority of our Wisconsin Medical Society be to enhance funding for nursing education so that class sizes can increase and high-quality faculty can be recruited and retained to teach the next generation of Wisconsin nurses. It also directs that the Society encourage Congress to develop a national plan for health care workforce development. *Action: adopted.*

Resolution 7 withdrawn.

Resolution 8 directs the Wisconsin Medical Society to adopt policy that would encourage health insurance plans to offer first-dollar coverage for pharmaceuticals for all patients under age 18, all pregnant patients, and all patients meeting the means tests for eligibility for Medicaid. *Action: adopted as amended.*

Resolution 9 directs the Wisconsin Medical Society to encourage the AMA House of Delegates to reexamine no-fault professional liability system insurance models. *Action: adopted as amended.*

Resolution 10 directs the Wisconsin Medical Society to re-affirm AMA policy H-15.986. *Action: substitute resolution adopted, as amended, in lieu of Resolution 10.*

Resolution 11 directs the Wisconsin Medical Society to support requiring pharmacies to list the full retail price of the prescription on the receipt along with the co-pay that is required in order to better inform our patients of the price of their medications. *Action: adopted as further amended.*

Resolution 12 directs the Wisconsin Medical Society to request that the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services' Division of Public Health study whether fa-



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cilities that process wild game meat must use equipment that is separate from equipment used to process livestock for human consumption; and to request that the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services' Division of Public Health study whether meat processing plants that process wild game meat and meat processing plants that process livestock for human consumption should be inspected and certified in the same manner; and to encourage accelerated research on the safety of the use of offal in food products meant to human consumption. *Action: adopted as amended.*

Resolution 13 directs the Wisconsin Medical Society to consider measures to reform and improve Wisconsin's medical liability climate, including but not limited to measures to reform the medical mediation panels in order to better weed out non-meritorious cases and reduce overall costs to the system; and for the Board to refer to the appropriate council of the Wisconsin Medical Society to study Wisconsin's professional liability climate, including medical mediation panels and expert witness issues. *Action: substitute resolution adopted in lieu of Resolution 13.*

Resolution 14 directs the Wisconsin Medical Society to present to politicians, business representatives and the public in general, data from the Health System Reform Task Force regarding the complex issues that influence current health care costs. They should be made aware that physicians are concerned with spiraling health care costs and the problems associated with current modern medical practice. This education should be in the form of printed materials, radio and television advertisement. *Action: adopted as further amended.*

Resolution 15 directs the Wisconsin Medical Society to educate the citizens, businesses and state and local government agencies of the harm that the Medicare geographic variations in reimbursement cause to Wisconsin residents. The resolution further directs the Society to encourage Governor James E. Doyle and other elected representatives to seek relief from the Medicare geographic variations in reimbursement that violate the rights of the residents of Wisconsin by way of litigation. *Action: adopted as amended.*

Resolution 16 directs the Wisconsin Medical Society to legislate to have the continuous, low-dose use of antimicrobials in healthy animals be made illegal in Wisconsin. Their use should be reserved for treating actual illness. Since continuous low-dose use of antimicrobials has been reported to improve growth in cattle and poultry, the appropriate state agency should investigate other means of supporting cattle and poultry production, including methods used in other countries. *Action: referred to the Board of Directors.*

Resolution 17 directs the Wisconsin Medical Society to establish a task force to study the loss of independent private practitioners in the state of Wisconsin and to make recommendations to the House of Delegates at the 2004 meeting. *Action: referred to the Board of Directors.*

Resolution 18 directs the Wisconsin Medical Society to support legislation that would restore the rights of individual physicians to go to the free marketplace to purchase liability insurance and to purchase umbrella coverage from insurers other than the Patients Compensation Fund. *Action: not adopted.*

Resolution 19 directs the Wisconsin Medical Society to educate the public about the dangers of mixing acetaminophen use with alcoholic beverages and about the dangers of taking acetaminophen in excessive dosages. The resolution also directs the Society to submit a resolution, on the national level, to require enhanced package warning labels on acetaminophen-containing products warning patients that liver failure can result from taking the product in combination with even moderate amounts of alcohol or from taking the product in dosages greater than advised in instructions on the package label. *Action: adopted.*

Resolution 20 directs the Wisconsin Medical Society to educate the public to the realities of health care funding. The educational program should stress that preservation of choice and access to quality health care in the future is at stake. *Action: adopted.*

Resolution 21 directs the Wisconsin Medical Society to take a position of leadership and advise that practicing physicians should accept nothing of value from pharmaceutical company representatives, even pens and stationery

that they can afford to purchase for their offices themselves. It further directs the Society to encourage the AMA to adopt a similar position and to study the relationship between pharmaceutical manufacturers and house staff, including free-pizza “educational” events. *Action: referred to the Board of Directors.*

Late Resolution 22 directs that the Society wish well to all Society members serving on active duty during these trying times, and to their family members, and extends to all of them our thanks for their service. It directs the Society to commend the employers, part-

ners, and call-rotation colleagues of military reservists who accommodate the national service provided by physicians and other health care professionals who serve us all in the National Guard and Reserves. *Action: adopted.*

Memorial Resolution—Kristin Bjurstrom Krueger. *Action: adopted.*

Policy ALC-994—Patient Placement Criteria for the Treatment of Psychoactive Substance Use Disorders. *Action: retained in part.*

Board of Directors' Reports

Board Report A – Chiropractic/Neurologist Fee Splitting. *Action: adopted as amended.*

Board Report A – Wisconsin Medical Society Proposal for Health System Reform. *Action: adopted.*

Board Report A – 2002 House of Delegates Resolution 9 – Government Financed Medical Care. *Action: adopted. Resolution 9 is considered as one model of health care reform.*

Board Report A – 2002 House of Delegates Resolution 12 – End-of-Life Drug and Pain Treatment. *Action: adopted.*

Board Report A: AMA's Committee on Organization of Organizations. *Action: referred to the Board of Directors.*

Board Report B: Board of Directors: Emergency Contraception. *Action: referred to the Board of Directors.*

Board Report B: Board of Directors: Task Force on Professionalism. *Action: adopted.*

Board Report B: Board of Directors: Task Force on Chronic Wasting Disease. *Action: adopted.*

Board Report B: Board of Directors: Task Force on Independent Medical Examiners. *Action: adopted.*

Board Report B: Board of Directors: Hospice Registered Nurse Pronouncement of Death. *Action: adopted.*

Board Report B: Board of Directors: 2002 House of Delegates Resolution 17 – Impact

of Medicare Payment on Access to Care. *Action: adopted.*

Board Report B: Board of Directors: 2002 House of Delegates Resolution 19 – Freedom in Medical Care. *Action: adopted.*

Board Report B: Board of Directors: 2002 House of Delegates Resolution 20 – Commercialized Medical Screening. *Action: adopted.*

Board Report B: Wisconsin Arthritis Plan. *Action: adopted.*

Board Report C – Relationship Between PIC Wisconsin and Wisconsin Medical Society. *Action: filed.*

Board Report C – Task Force on Constitution and Bylaws Board Report CC – Constitution and Bylaws Amendments: Change of Legal Name and Medical Schools Section Board Seat. *Action: Board Report C – Task Force on Constitution and Bylaws adopted as amended by Board Report CC, and Bylaws Chapter XI, as proposed in Board Report C adopted as further amended.*

Board Report C – 2003 Budget. *Action: adopted.*

Board Report C – County Medical Society Requirements. *Action: adopted.*

Board Report C – Medical Schools Section Bylaws. *Action: adopted.*

Board Report CC – 2004 Dues. *Action: adopted.*



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