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 Action: substitute resolution, as amended by deletion and substitution, adopted in lieu of Resolution 2 and rescinded current policy INS-953 Pay and Chase.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 the 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 11 directs the Wisconsin Medical Society to request that the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services’ Division of Public Health study whether...
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 stationary.
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, partners, 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.


Board of Directors’ Reports


Board Report A: AAMA’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 C – County Medical Society Requirements. Action: adopted.

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

The mission of the *Wisconsin Medical Journal* is to provide a vehicle for professional communication and continuing education of Wisconsin physicians.

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