

**2007 ANNUAL MEETING
MEDICAL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY**

Report: Reference Committee A

Presented by: Steven P. Shikiar, MD, Chair

NB: Only the Resolve portions of the resolutions are considered by the House of Delegates. The Whereas portions or preambles are informational and explanatory only.

1 **PRESIDENT/CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

2
3 **Recommendation:**

4
5 The Reference Committee recommends that the report be filed.

6
7 **JUDICIAL COUNCIL**

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9 **Recommendation:**

10
11 The Reference Committee recommends that the report be filed.

12
13 The Reference Committee requested that Resolution 17, 2006, which was referred to the
14 Board of Trustees, be referenced in the Annual Report of the Judicial Council. A copy of
15 the resolution can be seen on the MSNJ web site in the *2006 Transactions* on page 76.

16
17 **SECRETARY**

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19 **Recommendation:**

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21 The Reference Committee recommends that the report be filed.

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23 **TREASURER**

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25 **Recommendation:**

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27 The Reference Committee recommends that the report be filed.

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29 **COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND BUDGET**

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31 **Recommendation:**

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33 The Reference Committee recommends that the report be filed.

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1 **NOMINATIONS FOR EMERITUS MEMBERSHIP AND SUPPLEMENTAL**

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3 **Recommendation:**

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5 The Reference Committee recommends that the nominations be approved.

6
7 **RESOLUTION 9 – FAIR VACCINE REIMBURSEMENT**

8 *Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey seek legislation to assure that insurance*
9 *companies be required to reimburse all physicians at a fair and equitable rate for the*
10 *average wholesale price of vaccines plus a 25 percent administration fee.*

11
12 **RESOLUTION 19 – REIMBURSEMENT FOR VACCINATIONS**

13 *Resolved, that all physicians be properly reimbursed for the cost of purchasing and*
14 *administering vaccines.*

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16 Because of their similarity in subject matter, Resolutions 9 and 19 were considered at the
17 same time.

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19 **Recommendation:**

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21 The Reference Committee recommends that the following Substitute
22 Resolution (VACCINE REIMBURSEMENT) be adopted in lieu of
23 Resolutions 9 and 19:

24
25 Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey seek legislation to assure
26 that insurance companies be required to reimburse all physicians at 25
27 percent above the average wholesale price of vaccines plus a fair and
28 equitable administration fee.

29
30 **RESOLUTION 10 – REIMBURSEMENT OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL**
31 **EVALUATION AND TREATMENT**

32 *Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey seek legislation mandating that*
33 *insurance companies fairly reimburse physicians for telephone evaluations and*
34 *treatments during a community medical emergency or epidemic; and be it further*

35
36 *Resolved, that the New Jersey delegation submit a similar resolution to the American*
37 *Medical Association House of Delegates.*

38
39 **Recommendation:**

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41 The Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 10 be adopted, as
42 amended to read:

43
44 Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey seek legislation mandating
45 that insurance companies fairly reimburse physicians for telephone

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1 evaluations and treatments during a declared medical emergency, epidemic,
2 or pandemic; and be it further

3
4 Resolved, that the New Jersey delegation submit a similar resolution to the
5 American Medical Association House of Delegates; and be it further

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7 Resolved, that Resolution 10 be sent to the New Jersey Department of
8 Health and Senior Services, the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security,
9 and the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance.

10
11 **RESOLUTION 11 – NEW CPT REIMBURSEMENT CATEGORY**

12 *Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey petition the American Medical*
13 *Association to establish an in-touch white paper committee, outside of the CPT Editorial*
14 *Panel and the AMA/Specialty Society Relative Value Update Scale Committee (RUC), to*
15 *draft a proper code and fee schedule payment for patient advocacy work-time*
16 *necessitated by insurance company demands on physicians and their practices for data*
17 *collection for recommended services/procedures required by the patients’ insurers.*

18
19 **Recommendation:**

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21 The Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 11 be referred to
22 the Board of Trustees.

23
24 The Reference Committee recognizes that there are significant problems with the
25 workings of the CPT Editorial Panel and the Relative Value Update Scale Committee
26 (RUC), and recommends to the Board of Trustees the institution of an educational
27 program, to be held as soon as possible, to inform the membership about the RUC’s
28 processes in establishing fee schedules and to guide further action.

29
30 **RESOLUTION 12 – AVAILABILITY OF IN-NETWORK SPECIALISTS**

31 *Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey ask the Department of Banking and*
32 *Insurance to investigate the decreasing availability of in-network specialists, which is a*
33 *growing concern of the citizens of New Jersey; and be it further*

34
35 *Resolved, that the Department of Banking and Insurance take appropriate action to*
36 *assure that insurance companies adequately provide specialist care.*

37
38 **Recommendation:**

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40 The Reference Committee recommends that the following Substitute
41 Resolution be adopted in lieu of Resolution 12:

42
43 Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey work with the New Jersey
44 Department of Banking and Insurance to investigate the decreasing
45 availability of in-network specialists and to require health plans to disclose,

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1 at least annually, the availability of in-network specialists, which is a
2 growing concern of the citizens of New Jersey.

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4 **RESOLUTION 13 – REPLACE CPT EDITORIAL PANEL**

5 *Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey petition the American Medical*
6 *Association to replace all the members of the CPT Editorial Panel with only physicians*
7 *whose interests are in patient care and not in saving the Centers for Medicare and*
8 *Medicaid Services and insurance companies money.*

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10 **Recommendation:**

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12 The Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 13 not be adopted.

13
14 Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey petition the American
15 Medical Association to replace all the members of the CPT Editorial Panel
16 with only physicians whose interests are in patient care and not in saving
17 the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and insurance companies
18 money.

19
20 **RESOLUTION 15 – MSNJ TO DEVELOP A SPECIALTY-BASED PHYSICIANS’**
21 **FEE GUIDE TO BE USED BY ALL PRIVATE PAYORS**

22 *Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey, in conjunction with all specialty*
23 *societies, develop a transparent specialty-based physicians’ fee guide; and be it further*

24
25 *Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey develop legislation that would require*
26 *all private payors to follow the MSNJ-developed specialty-based fee guide, which should*
27 *be available on-line; and be it further*

28
29 *Resolved, that this specialty-based fee guide be developed by the Medical Society of New*
30 *Jersey by the end of 2007.*

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32 **Recommendation:**

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34 The Reference Committee recommends that the following Substitute
35 Resolution be adopted in lieu of Resolution 15:

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37 Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey, in conjunction with all
38 specialty societies, develop or acquire an existing (i.e., Wasserman
39 *Physicians’ Fee Reference*) specialty-based physicians’ fee guide/survey
40 by the end of 2007.

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42 **RESOLUTION 20 – REIMBURSEMENT POLICY CHANGES**

43 *Resolved, that insurance companies be required to provide a minimum one-year*
44 *notification before changing their reimbursement policies and rates.*

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Recommendation:

The Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 20 be adopted, as amended to read:

Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey petition the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance and/or the New Jersey legislature to require insurance companies ~~be required~~ to provide a minimum one-year notification before changing their ~~reimbursement~~ payment policies and rates.

Membership of the Committee:

Steven P. Shikiar, MD, chair; Joseph P. Costabile, MD, Louis G. Fares, II, MD, Christopher E. Gribbin, MD, Anna H. VanderSchraaf, MD, and Benjamin Weinstein, MD (William Sugarmann, MD, was unable to attend the meeting.)