

American Medical Association

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June 2016 Annual Meeting

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APD Representation in AMA House of Delegates (HOD)

- HOD represents all 50 states and approximately 130 specialties and service societies
- Specialty and Service Society
 - APD currently has **observer** (non-voting) status in HOD
- **Dermatology Section Council (DSC):**
 - AAD, SID, ASDSA, ACMS: representatives sit as **voting** members in HOD
 - US Army, US Navy, several state dermatology organizations
 - **American Society of Dermatopathology** was granted representation to HOD
 - Melissa Piliang, MD: ASDP delegate
 - Karl Napekoski, MD: ASDP alternate delegate
 - Increasing dermatology's presence and influence within "House of Medicine"

AAD Representation in AMA House of Delegates

- AMA conducts annual, rotating, 5-year reviews of state and specialty societies
- Allocates voting delegates in HOD
- Each society receives 1 voting delegate for every 1000 members who:
 - (a) Are AMA members, and
 - (b) Designate their primary specialty society representation to that particular society

DSC Resolutions in 2016

- DSC introduced four resolutions and one stand-alone amendment for consideration by HOD
- After debate and collaboration with state and specialty delegates in HOD, all of our resolutions were adopted

DSC Resolutions Adopted by AMA: MACRA

- Medicare Access & CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015
- Repealed Medicare Part B Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) reimbursement formula
- Replaced with new, value-based reimbursement system:
- Quality Payment Program (QPP), consisting of two tracks
 - Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS)
 - Advanced Alternative Payment Models (Advanced APMs)
- AMA to advocate that CMS:
 - Implement MIPS and APMs in a manner **consistent with congressional intent**
 - Provide **stable transition period** to implement MACRA, including:
 - Appropriate **testing**, including MDs' ability to participate and validate accuracy of scores/ratings
 - Necessary **resources** to implement provisions
 - Suitable **reporting period**

DSC Resolutions Adopted by AMA: Text Messaging

- AMA to **study medico-legal implications** of text messaging (and other non-HIPAA-compliant electronic messaging) among physicians, patients, and members of the health care team
- Report back at 2017 Annual Meeting
- AMA to **develop patient-oriented educational materials** about text-messaging, etc., among physicians, patients, and health care team

DSC Resolutions Adopted by AMA: Sunscreen at Schools, Camps

- AMA to work with state / specialty medical societies and patient advocacy groups to provide **advocacy resources** and **model legislation**
- Use in state advocacy campaigns seeking **removal of sunscreen-related bans** at schools and summer camp programs

DSC Resolutions Adopted by AMA: Compounding

- AMA to urge United States Pharmacopeia (USP) to **retain current special rules for office procedures**
 - Including (but not limited to) allergen extract compounding in medical office
 - Engage with FDA and Congress to ensure that small-volume, MD-office-based compounding is preserved
- AMA to form **coalition** with affected physician specialty organizations e.g., **dermatology** to jointly engage with USP, FDA, and Congress regarding MD-office-based compounding preparations and proposed changes to USP Chapter 797
- AMA to reaffirm that **regulation of in-office compounding** for MDs' patients be under purview of **state medical boards**, not state pharmacy boards
- AMA to **support current 2008 USP Chapter 797 sterile compounding rules** as they apply to allergen extracts, including **specific requirements related to beyond-use dates of compounded allergen extract stock**

DSC Resolutions Adopted by AMA: Fixing VA Physician Shortage

- AMA to work with Veterans Administration to minimize administrative barriers that discourage or prevent **non-VA physicians without compensation (WOC)** from volunteering time to care for our nation's veterans

Additional Resolutions of Interest to Dermatology

- **Telemedicine:** DSC **supported** resolution calling for **model state legislation**, and offered amendment to keep policy aligned with dermatology's position on telemedicine and to ensure proper safeguards for patient privacy
- **Prescription Drug Formulary:** DSC **supported** resolution addressing **transparency** of prescription drug formularies, with access to real-time data at point of prescribing. DSC **offered amendment** to ensure that posted formularies are up-to-date and accurate
- **Clerical Errors:** DSC **supported** resolution addressing CMS process for reviewing clerical errors, which may lead to MD's billing privileges being suspended. **Minor clerical errors can cause long payment backlogs and are sometimes treated as fraud.** DSC felt this issue must be addressed by CMS to ensure streamlined process to deal with clerical errors and prevent delays in patients' receiving necessary care

Many thanks to Dr. Cyndi Yag-Howard!

- Chair of Dermatology Section Council
- Outstanding leadership
- Superb documentation of very complex deliberations of AMA meetings and DSC discussions



