

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

Report: Reference Committee B

Presented by: Michael J. Spedick, 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 **COUNCIL ON LEGISLATION**

2
3 **Recommendation:**

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

6
7 **COUNCIL ON MEDICAL SERVICES AND SUPPLEMENTAL**

8
9 **Recommendation:**

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11 The Reference Committee recommends that the reports be filed.

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13 **COUNCIL ON PUBLIC HEALTH**

14
15 **Recommendation:**

16
17 The Reference Committee recommends that the report be filed.

18
19 **RESOLUTION 1 – ENROLLMENT IN MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS**

20 *Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey assist its membership in signing up with*
21 *local medical reserve corps.*

22
23 **Recommendation:**

24
25 The Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 1 be adopted.

26
27 Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey assist its membership in
28 signing up with local medical reserve corps.

29
30 **RESOLUTION 2 – OFFICE STOCKPILES OF TAMIFLU**

31 *Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey encourage stockpiling of Tamiflu for its*
32 *membership and their staffs to be used as prophylaxis in accordance with the guidelines*
33 *of the United States Department of Health and Human Services for Bird Flu outbreaks.*

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Recommendation:

The Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 2 be referred to the Board of Trustees for their input and recommendations.

Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey encourage stockpiling of Tamiflu for its membership and their staffs to be used as prophylaxis in accordance with the guidelines of the United States Department of Health and Human Services for Bird Flu outbreaks.

The Reference Committee considered that this would be expensive for individual practitioners and might not be the best way to use limited resources.

RESOLUTION 3 – MSNJ REPRESENTATION ON DISASTER PLANNING TEAMS

Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey petition the commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services to encourage county executives and county health offices to include county medical society representatives on their disaster planning teams.

Recommendation:

The Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 3 be adopted, as amended to read:

Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey petition the commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services to encourage county executives and county health offices to ~~include~~ invite county medical society representatives ~~on~~ in on their disaster planning teams.

RESOLUTION 4 – RESPIRATORY-BARRIER FITTINGS

Recommendation:

Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey provide a list of the agents performing respiratory-barrier fittings to county medical societies.

The Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 4 be adopted, as amended to read:

Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey provide a list of the agents performing respiratory-barrier fittings to county medical societies; and be it further

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1 Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey encourage its member
2 physicians and their staffs to be fitted with and instructed in the proper use of
3 these devices by these agents or their hospital medical staffs.
4

5 **RESOLUTION 5 — DIRECT MANAGED CARE REIMBURSEMENT TO**
6 **PATIENTS FOR HUMAN PAPILOMAVIRUS AND HERPES ZOSTER**
7 **VACCINES**

8 *Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey petition the New Jersey Department of*
9 *Banking and Insurance to waive regulations prohibiting managed care patients from*
10 *submitting a claim to their insurance companies for reimbursement of the Human*
11 *Papillomavirus and Herpes Zoster vaccines, with the understanding that physicians*
12 *agree not to submit a bill to their insurance companies for these vaccines and, if need be,*
13 *to get an authorization for giving the vaccines.*
14

15 **Recommendation:**

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17 The Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 5 be referred to
18 the Board of Trustees for further study.
19

20 Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey petition the New Jersey
21 Department of Banking and Insurance to waive regulations prohibiting
22 managed care patients from submitting a claim to their insurance companies
23 for reimbursement of the Human Papillomavirus and Herpes Zoster
24 vaccines, with the understanding that physicians agree not to submit a bill to
25 their insurance companies for these vaccines and, if need be, to get an
26 authorization for giving the vaccines.
27

28 The Reference Committee recognized several concerns: proper storage, potential liability,
29 contractual obstacles prohibiting the billing of patients, and third-party reimbursement
30 issues. The Reference Committee thinks that the complexity of these issues and those raised
31 in other similar resolutions warrant further study by the Board of Trustees or its designee.
32

33 **RESOLUTION 6 – FASTER CHILD-ADOPTION REGULATIONS**

34 *Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey seek legislation and support minimizing*
35 *mandatory waiting times in New Jersey state adoption regulations.*
36

37 **Recommendation:**

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39 The Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 6 be referred to
40 the Board of Trustees for further study.
41

42 Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey seek legislation and
43 support minimizing mandatory waiting times in New Jersey state adoption
44 regulations.

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1 The Reference Committee recommends that experts be consulted and existing statutes be
2 examined, before specific recommendations are made.

3
4 **RESOLUTION 7 – REOPENING SHUTTERED HOSPITALS TO EXPAND**
5 **SURGE CAPACITY**

6 *Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey petition the New Jersey commissioner*
7 *of Health and Senior Services to encourage county executives to submit plans to open*
8 *surge hospitals; and be it further*

9
10 *Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey seek legislation to waive federal and*
11 *state regulations that would hinder the timely opening of surge hospitals during an event*
12 *that produces mass casualties.*

13
14 **Recommendation:**

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16 The Reference Committee recommends that the following Substitute
17 Resolution (EXPANDING NEW JERSEY’S ACUTE-CARE SURGE
18 CAPACITY) be adopted in lieu of Resolution 7:

19
20 Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey petition the New Jersey
21 commissioner of Health and Senior Services to explore using surge and
22 mobile hospitals and/or other options to expand acute care capacity in an
23 emergency.

24
25 The Reference Committee reworded the resolution for clarity and to allow other options to
26 be explored.

27
28 **RESOLUTION 8 – HEARING LOSS**

29 *Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey seek New Jersey legislation that would*
30 *serve the same purposes as the New York City Noise Pollution Law, by reducing ambient*
31 *noise levels to preserve, protect, and promote the public health, safety and welfare, and*
32 *peace and quiet of New Jersey inhabitants.*

33
34 **Recommendation:**

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36 The Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 8 be adopted.

37
38 Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey seek New Jersey
39 legislation that would serve the same purposes as the New York City Noise
40 Pollution Law, by reducing ambient noise levels to preserve, protect, and
41 promote the public health, safety and welfare, and peace and quiet of New
42 Jersey inhabitants.

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1 A member of the audience thought that this resolution should not be adopted, because it
2 does not address a medical problem, but, rather, addresses a quality-of-life issue and was
3 overly intrusive.

4
5 **RESOLUTION 14 – CONTROLLED DANGEROUS SUBSTANCE LICENSING**

6 *Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey petition the New Jersey Drug Control*
7 *Unit and the other necessary agencies to abolish the current CDS licensing requirements*
8 *that must be met in order to prescribe controlled substances in New Jersey.*

9
10 **Recommendation:**

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12 The Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 14 be adopted.

13
14 Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey petition the New Jersey
15 Drug Control Unit and the other necessary agencies to abolish the current
16 CDS licensing requirements that must be met in order to prescribe controlled
17 substances in New Jersey.

18
19 **RESOLUTION 16 – MSNJ TO DEVELOP A CONSUMER-DIRECTED PUBLIC**
20 **AWARENESS CAMPAIGN REGARDING THE HEALTH INSURANCE**
21 **COMPANIES’ CONTINUED ABUSES**

22 *Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey publish a brochure that will include:*
23 *CEO salary, stock options, and bonuses; increasing premium rates; limited access to*
24 *medical care; and percentage of reduction of physicians’ fees; etc., which could be in*
25 *member offices and also be available on-line; and be it further*

26
27 *Resolved, that this consumer-directed public awareness campaign be funded through the*
28 *Medical Society of New Jersey’s Physician Advocacy Fund.*

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30 **Recommendation:**

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32 The Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 16 be adopted, as
33 amended to read:

34
35 Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey collect and publish a
36 brochure information that will include: CEO salary, stock options, and
37 bonuses; increasing premium rates; limited access to medical care; and
38 percentage of reduction of physicians’ fees; etc., which could be in
39 member offices and also be available on-line; and be it further

40
41 Resolved, that this consumer-directed public awareness campaign be
42 funded through the Medical Society of New Jersey’s Physician Advocacy
43 Fund.

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1 **RESOLUTION 17 – PRE-CERTIFICATIONS OF MEDICALLY NECESSARY**
2 **PROCEDURES**

3 *Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey propose legislation requiring that*
4 *physicians determine the medical need for their patients' procedures and forbidding*
5 *insurance companies from wasting physicians' valuable time now being spent in*
6 *obtaining pre-certification for necessary medical procedures.*

7
8 **Recommendation:**
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10 The Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 17 be reaffirmed,
11 because legislation addressing this issue has been introduced and is
12 currently moving through the legislature.

13
14 Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey propose legislation
15 requiring that physicians determine the medical need for their patients'
16 procedures and forbidding insurance companies from wasting physicians'
17 valuable time now being spent in obtaining pre-certification for necessary
18 medical procedures.
19

20 **RESOLUTION 18 – ICD-9 CODES**

21 *Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey propose legislation prohibiting the*
22 *annual change of ICD-9 codes for the same procedure.*

23
24 **Recommendation:**
25

26 The Reference Committee recommends that the following Substitute
27 Resolution (CPT AND ICD-9 CODES) be adopted in lieu of Resolution
28 18:

29
30 ~~Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey propose legislation~~
31 ~~prohibiting the annual change of ICD-9 and CPT codes for the same~~
32 ~~procedure.~~
33

34 Resolved, that the Medical Society of New Jersey instruct its delegation to
35 the American Medical Association to introduce a resolution at the 2007
36 Annual Meeting requiring that changes to CPT and ICD-9 codes be minimal.

Membership of the Committee:

**Michael J. Spedick, MD, chair; Henriette E. Abel, MD, James Q. Atkinson, III, MD,
Robert D. De Groote, MD, Kevin M. Fleming, MD, James A. Fox, MD, and
Franklin I. Margolis, MD**