

NEWS RELEASE

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MMA PHYSICIANS PROPOSE AMA ACTION AND POLICY

Minneapolis—The Minnesota delegation to the American Medical Association will introduce three resolutions asking for new AMA action and policy at the AMA Annual Meeting, November 10-13 in Honolulu.

Resolution 715, Acceptance of TRICARE Health Insurance, asks the American Medical Association to work with TRICARE, the primary military health care insurance for military service members and their families, to decrease the complexities associated with the contracting process and work to increase the level of reimbursement to physicians.

Resolution 815, Joint Commission Interpretations of Medication Reconciliation, calls on the AMA to urge that medication reconciliation standards be consistently interpreted by the Joint Commission survey team members, hospitals, and health care systems in order to improve patient safety and to work with other interested parties, including the American Hospital Association, National Patient Safety Foundation and the Joint Commission to standardize interpretation and enforcement of Joint Commission

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medication reconciliation policies, based on pre-established, uniform, specific, and consistently interpreted criteria.

Resolution, 816, Tiering System for Third Party Payers, asks the AMA to develop a mechanism that state medical associations could use to tier third-party payers on value and performance. This information should then be made available to individual and group purchasers of health care coverage as a way to promote transparency and informed decision making in the purchase of health insurance.

The AMA House of Delegates represents every state, nearly 100 national medical specialty societies, federal service agencies, and six sections including hospital and clinic staffs, resident physicians, medical students, young physicians, medical schools and international medical graduates.

Members of the Minnesota delegation headed to the AMA meeting include delegates Frank J. Indihar, M.D.; Kenneth W. Crabb, M.D.; Raymond G. Christensen, M.D.; Anthony C. Jaspers, M.D.; John M. Van Etta, M.D.; Sally Trippel, M.D; Robert Grow, M.D., resident, and Jason D. Meyers, medical school student. Alternate delegates include John P. Abenstein, M.D.; Gail E. Baldwin, M.D.; Blanton Bessinger, M.D.; David Estrin, M.D.; Benjamin H. Whitten, M.D.; and Dionne Hart, M.D., resident. MMA President James J. Dehen Jr., M.D., and CEO Robert K. Meiches, M.D., will also attend.

