

MEDCHI, THE MARYLAND STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

BOT Report 1-20

INTRODUCED BY: Board of Trustees

SUBJECT: Follow up to Resolutions from 2019 Fall House of Delegates Meeting

The Board of Trustees presents the following informational report on the follow up Actions for resolutions from the 2019 Fall House of Delegates Meeting.

RES. NO.	TITLE	SUBMITTED BY	HOD MTG.	HOD ACTION	RESOLVES	FOLLOW-UP ACTION
10-19	Recreational Cannabis Age Limit	Medical Cannabis Task Force	Nov. 2, 2019	Referred		Considered at November 2019 BOT meeting; BOT voted to refer back to the Medical Cannabis Task Force for further study
11-19	Medical Cannabis Compliance	Medical Cannabis Task Force	Nov. 2, 2019	Adopted	Resolved, that it be the policy of MedChi that a licensed dispensary and a patient comply with a certifying provider's recommendation with regard to medical cannabis.	Becomes MedChi policy
12-19	Medical Cannabis Dosage and Warning Labels	Medical Cannabis Task Force	Nov. 2, 2019	Adopted	Resolved, that MedChi submit a request to the Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission to request that warning and dosage labels be on both the outer packaging and inner packaging for THC oils and other relevant products.	MedChi leadership met with MD Medical Cannabis Commission; the commission stated that this is current commission policy.
13-19	Medical Cannabis Taxation	Medical Cannabis Task Force	Nov. 2, 2019	Adopted	Resolved, that if Maryland decides to legalize recreational marijuana MedChi support efforts to ensure that the medical use of marijuana remain untaxed.	Will be incorporated into MedChi's legislative advocacy efforts if necessary

RES. NO.	TITLE	SUBMITTED BY	HOD MTG.	HOD ACTION	RESOLVES	FOLLOW-UP ACTION
14-19	Gun Violence and Mental Health Stigma in the Media	Medical Student Section.	Nov. 2, 2019	Adopted	<p>Resolved, that MedChi will submit a resolution to the AMA to amend AMA Policy H-145.971 by addition and deletion as follows:</p> <p>Our AMA encourages the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in collaboration with other public and private organizations, to develop recommendations or best practices for media coverage of mass shootings, <u>including for accurate and sensitive discussion of the purported relationship between mental illness and gun violence.</u></p>	<p>Submitted to the AMA for I-19. AMA HOD adopted Resolution 934 as amended:</p> <p>RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association amend Policy H145.971, "Development and Implementation of Recommendations for Responsible Media Coverage of Mass Shootings," by addition as follows:</p> <p>Our AMA encourages the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in collaboration with other public and private organizations, to develop recommendations and/or best practices for media coverage of mass shootings, including for accurate and sensitive discussion of the purported relationship between mental illness and gun violence. Including informed discussion of the limited data on the relationship between mental illness and gun violence, recognizing the potential for exacerbating stigma against individuals with mental illness. (Modify Current HOD Policy)</p>

RES. NO.	TITLE	SUBMITTED BY	HOD MTG.	HOD ACTION	RESOLVES	FOLLOW-UP ACTION
15-19	Background Checks for Long Gun Sales	Medical Student Section	Nov. 2, 2019	Amended and adopted	<p>Resolved, that MedChi support state legislation requiring that background checks and gun safety courses be conducted for long gun sales; and be it further</p> <p>Resolved, that MedChi support state legislation instituting a 7-day waiting period for all long gun sales; and be it further</p> <p>Resolved, that MedChi support state legislation to raise the minimum age of purchase of a long gun to 21 years old.</p>	Incorporated into MedChi's 2020 Legislative Agenda
16-19	Advocate for a Global Carbon Pricing System	Medical Student Section	Nov. 2, 2019	Not adopted		n/a
17-19	Supporting Research Into the Therapeutic Potential of Psychedelics	Medical Student Section	Nov. 2, 2019	Amended and adopted	Resolved, that MedChi will send a resolution to the AMA to call for establishing a waiver process for psychedelics as Schedule 1 substances with the goal of facilitating clinical research.	Submitted to the AMA. Not adopted by the AMA.
18-19	Supporting Culture Transformation Initiative at University of Maryland School of Medicine and University of Maryland Medical Center.	Medical Student Section	Nov. 2, 2019	Amended and adopted	Resolved, that MedChi communicate support for the Culture Transformation Initiative at the University of Maryland School of Medicine and University of Maryland Medical Center.	Letter sent to E. Albert Reece (UMSOM) and Alison Brown (UMMC)
19-19	Board Immunity	Board of Trustees	Nov. 2, 2019	Adopted	Resolved, that if the decision of the Court of Special Appeals in the <i>Geier</i> case is not appealed or if it is affirmed on appeal by the Maryland Court of Appeals, MedChi shall introduce legislation providing limited immunity from civil liability for negligent acts to Board members, Board staff, and administrative prosecutors, but does not provide immunity from malicious conduct during an investigation or prosecution.	Will be pursued as part of MedChi's legislative advocacy efforts if necessary.

RES. NO.	TITLE	SUBMITTED BY	HOD MTG.	HOD ACTION	RESOLVES	FOLLOW-UP ACTION
20-19	Taxation Exemption	Queen Anne's County Medical Society	Nov. 2, 2019	Adopted	Resolved, that MedChi supports legislation to clarify Maryland's tax law that Section 10-102.1 tax is a tax on the pass-through entity itself, thus making the State income tax paid by the entity deductible for federal taxable income purposes.	Incorporated into MedChi's 2020 Legislative Agenda
21-19	Immunization – Repeal of Religious Exemption	Public Health Committee	Nov. 2, 2019	Amended and adopted	Resolved, that MedChi supports a repeal of Maryland's religious exemption for immunization.	Incorporated into MedChi's 2020 Legislative Agenda
22-19	Requirement for All Maryland Public and Private Kindergarten, Elementary & Secondary School Teachers & Staff to Receive Flu Vaccine	Montgomery County Medical Society	Nov. 2, 2019	Amended and adopted	Resolved, that MedChi support legislation or regulation that would require all kindergarten, elementary & secondary public & private school teachers, administrators, and other school employees to receive the seasonal influenza vaccine on an annual basis unless medically contraindicated as certified by a licensed physician.	Incorporated into MedChi's 2020 Legislative Agenda
23-19	Reducing Administrative Burdens Associated with ImmuNet and Maryland's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program	Montgomery County Medical Society	Nov. 2, 2019	Amended and adopted	Resolved, that MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, work with the relevant state agencies and other relevant stakeholders to address administrative challenges faced by physicians in querying, accessing, and submitting data to the prescription drug monitoring program and ImmuNet.	Meetings have been held – in progress.
24-19	Outpatient Mental Health Clinic Medical Directors	Howard County Medical Society	Nov. 2, 2019	Amended and adopted	Resolved, that it is MedChi policy that the Medical Director of an outpatient mental health center should be required to be a licensed and appropriately trained physician.	Becomes MedChi policy HB1461: Behavioral Health Programs – Outpatient Mental Health Centers – Medical and Clinical Directors being considered in MDGA 2020 MedChi is working with MPS on advocacy efforts. MedChi is taking a stand against new clinical director rules for medical cannabis dispensaries.

RES. NO.	TITLE	SUBMITTED BY	HOD MTG.	HOD ACTION	RESOLVES	FOLLOW-UP ACTION
25-19	Payor Physician Rating Systems	Montgomery County Medical Society	Nov. 2, 2019	Amended and adopted	<p>Resolved, that MedChi initiate a formal process between Maryland physicians and private health insurance payors by which both parties can develop a mutual understanding of the link between physician ratings and payment rates and create an appeals process that is streamlined and easy to utilize; and be it further</p> <p>Resolved, that MedChi actively collaborate with the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) and Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA) to create online and print resources for physicians including a summary of the current statute, an explanation of physician ratings systems by payor including the methodology used by the payor, the appeal process for physicians to dispute a rating, and payor-specific contact information for the department/division which addresses physician questions about rating systems; and share these resources with the membership as soon as possible.</p>	Colleen George and Gene Ransom met with CareFirst to discuss.

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26-19	Physician In-practice Preparation of Medicine	Montgomery County Medical Society	Nov. 2, 2019	Amended and adopted	<p>Resolved, That MedChi oppose any state medical board action or legislative action to delegate authority or oversight of physicians preparing medications in physicians' offices to another regulatory body (e.g., state pharmacy board); and be it further</p> <p>Resolved, That MedChi proactively work to preserve a physician's ability to prepare medications in physicians' offices and be able to do so without being subject to unreasonable and burdensome equipment and process requirements; and be it further</p> <p>Resolved, That MedChi oppose efforts requiring physicians to comply with Section 1.3 Immediate Use [Compounded Sterile Preparations] of USP Chapter 797 – Sterile Compounding and seek at least a 7 day exemption; and be it further</p> <p>Resolved, That it is MedChi policy that the act of preparing medications in physicians' offices for their patients is not considered compounding.</p>	<p>Incorporated into MedChi's 2020 Legislative Agenda</p> <p>Incorporated into MedChi's 2020 Legislative Agenda</p> <p>Incorporated into MedChi's 2020 Legislative Agenda</p> <p>Becomes MedChi policy</p>
27-19	Expanding Maryland's Step Therapy Law to Include Additional Patient Protections	Montgomery County Medical Society	Nov. 2, 2019	Amended and adopted	Resolved, that MedChi examine Maryland's step therapy and other state laws regarding utilization management to determine if additional changes are necessary to strengthen Maryland patient protections.	Incorporated into MedChi's 2020 Legislative Agenda
28-19	Health Insurers – Collection of Co-Pays and Deductibles	Baltimore City Medical Society	Nov. 2, 2019	Amended and adopted	Resolved that MedChi ask our AMA to study whether deductibles and co-pays should be collected by insurance companies rather than by practitioners.	This resolution was not submitted to the AMA because a study on the topic was already completed (CMS Report 9-A-19). The study was sent to the authors of Resolution 28-19 for review and comment.

RES. NO.	TITLE	SUBMITTED BY	HOD MTG.	HOD ACTION	RESOLVES	FOLLOW-UP ACTION
29-19	Integration of Mental Health, Substance Use, and Primary Care Systems and Services	Maryland Psychiatric Society	Nov. 2, 2019	Amended and adopted	<p>Resolved, that MedChi advocate for the principles stated below and monitor the legislative and regulatory changes to the healthcare delivery model that integrates somatic and behavioral healthcare systems and services in a manner that aligns the incentives of the patients, practitioners, payors, and the State, with guiding principles that include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • patient-centeredness, • adequate continuum of community-based services, including psychiatric rehabilitation, • quality integrated care management and care coordination, • stakeholder oversight and data transparency, • accountable parity compliance, • provider communication, • transparent network adequacy, • patient- and practitioner-friendly payment processes, • minimization of administrative overhead, and payor and practitioner incentives to coordinate and to promote positive outcomes and prevent negative outcomes and to control unnecessary costs. 	Incorporated into MedChi's 2020 Legislative Agenda. Gene Ransom is participating in behavioral health coalition, The Mid-Atlantic Path Forward for Mental Health and Substance Use
30-19	Chestertown Rural Health Care Delivery System	Kent County Medical Society	Nov. 2, 2019	Referred		Considered at Nov. 2019 BOT meeting; BOT voted to refer this resolution to the Legislative Council for consideration
31-19	Nuclear War	Public Health Committee	Nov. 2, 2019	Not adopted		n/a

RES. NO.	TITLE	SUBMITTED BY	HOD MTG.	HOD ACTION	RESOLVES	FOLLOW-UP ACTION
32-19	Fair Treatment of Integrative Medicine Physicians	Fred Bloem, MD; William Rollow, MD; Warren Ross, MD; Steve Saltzman, MD; Rebecca Vickers, MD; William Vickers, MD	Nov. 2, 2019	Amended and adopted	Resolved, that MedChi work with the Maryland Society of Integrative Medicine to ensure that Maryland-licensed physicians who practice integrative medicine appropriately are treated fairly by the Maryland Board of Physicians.	Incorporated into MedChi's 2020 Legislative Agenda MedChi advocated for fair treatment of integrative medicine physicians as the MGA debated SB 103: The Patient Access to Integrative Medicine Act of 2020. MedChi did not support the bill but proposed compromises that would ensure fair representation for integrative medicine physicians on the Maryland Board of Physicians.