

MEDCHI, THE MARYLAND STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution 3-20

INTRODUCED BY: Baltimore County Medical Association

SUBJECT: Adopting the Use of the Most Recent and Updated Edition of the
AMA Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment

1 Whereas, the *AMA Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment* were first developed over
2 50 years ago; and

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4 Whereas, there are currently two states that use the Third Edition of the *AMA Guides* which was
5 published in 1988; seven states that use the Fourth Edition which was published in 1993; twelve
6 states that use the Fifth Edition which was published in 2000; and fourteen states that use the
7 most recent Sixth Edition which was published in 2007; and

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9 Whereas, the American Medical Association has convened an Editorial Panel and a content
10 curation process to keep the *AMA Guides* content aligned to the most current evidence
11 and science; and

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13 Whereas, the purpose of the *AMA Guides* is to bring greater objectivity to estimating the degree
14 of long-standing or permanent impairments; and

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16 Whereas, new medical innovations become available and patient outcomes continue to improve;
17 and

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19 Whereas, physicians are encouraged to use the most current evidence-based science in our
20 practices; therefore be it

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22 Resolved, that our AMA support the adoption of the most current edition of the *AMA Guides* in
23 all jurisdictions in order to provide fair and consistent impairment evaluations for patients and
24 claimants including injured workers.

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27 Fiscal Note: Included in existing AMA delegation budget.

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29 Justification for Urgent Time Frame, as Requested by the AMA: The MedChi delegation must
30 submit this resolution no later than the November 2020 AMA Interim Meeting because the new
31 *AMA Guides* will be published in February 2021 and become effective April 1, 2021.