MEDCHI, THE MARYLAND STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution 23-18

INTRODUCED BY: Montgomery County Medical Society

SUBJECT: Patient Privacy Invasion by the Submission of Fully Identified Quality Measure Data to CMS

Whereas there are two types of quality measure reports that are required to be produced by Meaningful Use Stage 2 Certified EHRs: QRDA I reports provide detailed information about patients including names, dates of birth, addresses, race and ethnicity and conditions such as diabetes, drug and alcohol abuse, obesity, depression, etc. and QRDA III reports which are summary reports which do not contain personal information about patients; and

Whereas patients do not give permission to submit the personally identified QRDA I reports for either PQRS for Medicare and Medicaid or for Meaningful Use Quality Reporting; and

Whereas the release of private information without permission can undermine the willingness of patients to confide in their provider and may undermine the provider-patient relationship; and

Whereas the quality measures include very sensitive information; and

Whereas there are no guarantees that the database containing this personally identified information can be protected from illegal access; and

Whereas there are no guarantees that the database will not be released deliberately, by act of law or regulation, sometime in the future, without patient permission; therefore be it

Resolved, that to protect patient privacy, MedChi submit a resolution to the American Medical Association to establish regulation and/or legislation that all quality measure data should only be collected in summary format with no personally identified information included.

As adopted by the House of Delegates at its meeting on September 22, 2018.