

RESOLUTION 8 - 05A

Title: Waiting Period for Medicaid Sterilizations

Introduced by: Thomas S. Markus, MD, MI Section, American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology

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Referred to: Reference Committee A

House Action: No Action

Whereas, for more than 30 years Medicaid patients and providers have been required to obtain documentation and consents that require a 30-day waiting period for sterilization procedures, and

Whereas, this practice has been the cause of frequent problems for patients and physicians including inability to perform sterilizations, additional surgery which would not be necessary with these regulations, and subsequent unwanted pregnancies, and

Whereas, this consent waiting period is not required by any other insurance entity or for any other surgical procedure, suggesting that it is discriminatory against poor women seeking sterilization, and

Whereas, this policy potentially adds to the medical risk these patients must undergo, and

Whereas, this policy ends up costing more money in care for unwanted pregnancies and additional surgical procedures, and

Whereas, this policy has not been shown to be effective for the purpose for which it was intended; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Michigan Delegation to the AMA ask the AMA to seek the abolishment of the Medicaid requirement for a 30-day waiting period for sterilization procedures.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE