

**RESOLUTION 16 - 05A**

**Title:** Insurance Coverage for Colonoscopy

**Introduced by:** Harry J. Wasvary, MD, for the MI Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons

**Original Author:** Harry J. Wasvary, MD

**Referred to:** Reference Committee A

**House Action:** Disapproved

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**Whereas, in the United States, colorectal cancer (CRC) is the second leading cause of cancer death after lung cancer, and**

**Whereas, screening for CRC by various methods, including colonoscopy, could decrease the CRC death rate by one-third, and**

**Whereas, individuals with a family history of CRC are at higher risk themselves for CRC, and**

**Whereas, the American Cancer Society has recommended colonoscopy for individuals with a family history of CRC, and**

**Whereas, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (BCBSM) now considers “family history” of CRC to be a “screening” diagnosis rather than a “medical” diagnosis, and**

**Whereas, this change by BCBSM reduces the number of individuals who have insurance coverage for colonoscopies when their only diagnosis is family history of colon cancer; therefore be it**

**RESOLVED: That MSMS urge Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and the Michigan legislature to accept “family history of colon/rectal cancer” as a medical diagnosis rather than a screening diagnosis to allow a greater number of higher risk patients to receive appropriate surveillance.**

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**WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE**