

**RESOLUTION 96-08A**

**Title: Truth and Disclosure by Allied Health Professional Patient Care**

**Introduced by: Theresa M. Cooney, MD, for the Michigan College of Eye Physicians and Surgeons**

**Original Author: Theresa M. Cooney, MD**

**Referred to: Reference Committee B**

**House Action: Adopted**

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**Whereas, physicians include individuals licensed to engage in the practice of medicine and/or surgery, or in the practice of osteopathic medicine and/or surgery, and**

**Whereas, allied health professionals, who are non-physicians, include, but are not limited to, doctors of optometry, nurse practitioners, midwives, physical therapists, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants, and**

**Whereas, there are distinct differences in the formal education, training, certification, and licensure between physicians and non-physician allied health professionals, and**

**Whereas, physicians are required to receive an additional seven more years of education and hands-on training after receiving their bachelor's degree, including the clinical, pharmacological, and surgical care of patients, including a minimum of five years of clinical training, and**

**Whereas, allied health professionals are required to receive two to four or more years of education beyond some college education, that does not comply with equal accreditation standards that is required of medical or osteopathic education and training, nor is equal with respect to clinical, pharmacological, and surgical care of patients, and**

**Whereas, allied health professionals, who are non-physicians, have been granted the rights by some states, including Michigan, to diagnose, treat, and manage various medical and surgical conditions, with or without the direct supervision of a physician, and**

**Whereas, allied health professionals, who are non-physicians, often provide patient care and health services without patients fully understanding their credentials and differences from physicians; therefore be it**

**RESOLVED: That MSMS seek legislation limiting the designation “physician,” “medical practitioner,” and “surgeon” to only those fields that currently are designated under Public Health Code Sections 170 and 174 and specifically require all other providers to identify themselves as non-physicians or allied health professionals; and be it further**

**RESOLVED: That MSMS seek patient safety legislation that requires all non-physician allied health professionals to fully disclose the differences in their education and training compared to physicians at the time patient care services are rendered.**

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