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Title: Specified Wording for SOAP Notes

Introduced by: Domenic Federico, MD, for the Kent County Delegation

Original Author: Jayne Courts, MD

Referred to: Reference Committee A

House Action: **AMEND**

Whereas, SOAP (Subjective, Objective, Assessment, and Plan) or routine visit notes start with a subjective portion, and

Whereas, a chief complaint (CC), if listed, should be chosen at the discretion of the provider, and

Whereas, visits are being denied due to the absence of specific words within the CC portion of the note, even though the note itself provides adequate documentation of the reason for the visit and the actual work performed, and

Whereas, documenting certain words to enable billing can lead to inaccurate charting to avoid denial of payment; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Michigan Delegation to the American Medical Association (AMA) ask our AMA to lobby the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to discontinue denial of payments and effects of the RAC audits due to the absence of specific words in the chief complaint when the note provides adequate documentation of the reason for the visit and establish new AMA policy.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE