

1  
2  
3 Title: Streamline Mandatory Reporting of Inappropriate Sexual Behavior and Abuse  
4  
5 Introduced by: Lee P. Begrow, DO, for the Kent County Delegation  
6  
7 Original Author: Gerald Lee, MD  
8  
9 Referred to: Reference Committee B  
10  
11 House Action: **APPROVED AS AMENDED**  
12

---

13  
14 Whereas, in recent well-publicized scenarios of sexual abuse and misconduct in health care  
15 settings, other health professionals, administrators and others serving in the capacity of health care  
16 related positions were alerted to and/or were made aware, or suspected the behavior for years, and  
17

18 Whereas, such sexual abuse and misconduct destroys trust in our profession for all, and  
19

20 Whereas, inappropriate sexual behavior exists in all professions and walks of life, and often  
21 others know or suspect but, are reluctant to get involved, and  
22

23 Whereas, patient safety and ethical behaviors should be our primary goal in treating patients  
24 and communicating with them and their advocates, and  
25

26 Whereas, clearly the first responsibility of the health care worker knowledgeable about the  
27 criminal abuse of a patient is to report suspected criminal behavior to law enforcement, and  
28

29 Whereas, many patients and health care workers are unsure of how or where to report sexual  
30 misconduct and abuse towards patients, and are often fearful of repercussions of reporting; therefore  
31 be it  
32

33 RESOLVED: That MSMS denounce unsafe, inappropriate, unprofessional, or sexual behaviors  
34 toward patients; and be it further  
35

36 RESOLVED: That MSMS work with stakeholders in law enforcement, the Michigan Department  
37 of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, and Michigan’s Licensing Boards to develop a streamlined,  
38 confidential reporting system for medical personnel and patients to report any suspected  
39 inappropriate sexual behavior involving health care professionals and patients, with directives to  
40 report suspected criminal activity, such as sexual abuse and assault, to law enforcement, without risk;  
41 and be it further  
42

43 RESOLVED: That MSMS create a free online continuing medical education program on the  
44 issue of inappropriate sexual behaviors and criminal sexual misconduct towards pediatric and adult  
45 patients and how to report behavior in Michigan, that will fulfill the 1-hour CME requirement in ethics  
46 for a Michigan license.  
47

---

48  
49 WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: Curriculum development and speaker costs for an  
50 online CME program is approximately \$5,000.

**Relevant MSMS Policy:****Chaperones in Exam Rooms**

MSMS encourages the use of chaperones in exam rooms during examinations which could result in sexual misconduct allegations in order to provide comfort to the patient and to protect against such allegations. (Board Action Report #6, 1999 HOD, re Res83-98A)

**Sexual Harassment Guidelines**

MSMS advocates that guidelines for prevention of sexual harassment be integrated into the medical work place. (Res12-93A)

– Edited 1998