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Title: Vet All Proposed Non-Physician Scope of Practice Changes
Introduced by: Scott A. Monteith, MD, for the Michigan Psychiatric Society
Original Author: Vasilis K. Pozios, MD
Referred to: Reference Committee B
House Action: **APPROVED AS AMENDED**

Whereas, there is increasing pressure to directly and indirectly change the scope of practice of non-physicians through changes to Michigan’s Public Health Code and/or Mental Health Code, and

Whereas, the Public and Mental Health Codes speak directly to matters affecting quality of care and civil liberties, and

Whereas, MSMS is committed to aiding Michigan physicians individually and collectively in maintaining high levels of ethical conduct and standards of practice to protect and serve the total public, and

Whereas, physician-led, team-based care (in which non-physicians play vital roles) has been shown to further the Triple Aim, and

Whereas, physicians are trained to provide a complex differential diagnosis, develop a treatment plan that addresses multiple organ systems, and order and interpret tests within the context of the patient's overall health condition, and

Whereas, the American Medical Association (AMA) has made non-physician scope of practice issues a priority (e.g., AMA policies H-35.989, H-160.947); therefore be it

RESOLVED: That MSMS oppose all proposed non-physician scope of practice changes in Michigan’s Public and Mental Health Codes that are not supported by the providers level of education and training.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE

Relevant MSMS Policy:

Oppose Scope of Practice Expansion for Allied Health Care Professionals

MSMS continues to oppose any legislation that seeks to expand the scope of practice for allied health care professionals beyond the level of their education and training. (Res89-16)

Evaluation of Allied Health Professionals

MSMS supports the evaluation of allied health professional methods of practice. (Prior to 1990)

Nursing: Scope of Practice

MSMS opposes the practice of medicine by independent nurse practitioners.

MSMS supports the establishment of written protocols between the physician and nurse practitioner.

(Res33-91A)

– Edited 1998

– Reaffirmed (Board-Oct12)

Optometry: Scope of Practice Expansion

MSMS opposes allowing optometrists to expand their scope of practice to include the use of therapeutic drugs, and to expand the area that they may examine from the eyeball to the area surrounding the eye. (Board-Jan93)

Health Profession Boards Need to Protect Patients

MSMS opposes efforts by licensing boards of nonphysicians to establish their own scope of practice, and expansion in nonphysicians scope of practice may only occur with approval of the Boards of Medicine, the respective non-physician licensing board, and the Legislature. (Res20-12)