

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35

Title: Reporting of Unethical Physician Behavior  
Introduced by: Stanley B. Wolfe, MD, for the Macomb County Delegation  
Original Author: Stanley B. Wolfe, MD  
Referred to: Reference Committee E  
House Action: **APPROVED**

---

Whereas, there have been a number of highly publicized cases of unethical and fraudulent physician behavior recently in Michigan and across the country, and

Whereas, such behavior endangers the public and greatly erodes the public’s faith in the medical profession as a whole, and

Whereas, physicians are honor-bound by the American Medical Association Code of Medical Ethics to self-regulate to maintain the highest quality standards of care, and

Whereas, physicians may not be aware of proper reporting procedures for unethical and fraudulent physician behavior; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That MSMS educate its members, through a webinar and/or other resources, on the importance of professional self-regulation and proper reporting procedures for unethical and fraudulent physician behavior; and be it further

RESOLVED: That MSMS include on its website information and links to assist its members in the reporting of unethical and fraudulent physician behavior to the proper regulatory agencies including anonymous reporting where available.

---

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE

**Relevant MSMS Policy:**

**AMA Principles of Medical Ethics**

MSMS supports the AMA Principles of Medical Ethics:

“PREAMBLE: The medical profession has long subscribed to a body of ethical statements developed primarily for the benefit of the patient. As a member of this profession, a physician must recognize responsibility to patients first and foremost, but also as well as to society, to other health professionals, and to self.

“The following Principles adopted by the American Medical Association are not laws, but standards of conduct, which define the essentials of honorable behavior for the physician.

“I. A physician shall be dedicated to providing competent medical care with compassion and respect for human dignity and rights.

"II. A physician shall uphold the standards of professionalism, be honest in all professional interactions, and strive to report physicians deficient in character or competence, or engaging in fraud or deception, to appropriate entities.

"III. A physician shall respect the law and also recognize a responsibility to seek changes in those requirements which are contrary to the best interests of the patient.

"IV. A physician shall respect the rights of patients, colleagues, and other health professionals, and shall safeguard patient confidences and privacy within the constraints of the law.

"V. A physician shall continue to study, apply and advance scientific knowledge, maintain a commitment to medical education, make relevant information available to patients, colleagues and the public, obtain consultation, and use the talents of other health professionals when indicated.

"VI. A physician shall, in the provision of appropriate patient care except in emergencies, be free to choose whom to serve, with whom to associate, and the environment in which to provide medical care.

"VII. A physician shall recognize a responsibility to participate in activities contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

"VIII. A physician shall, while caring for a patient, regard responsibility to the patient as paramount.

"IX. A Physician Shall Support Access To Medical Care For All People."

(AMA Current Opinions, 2001) (Prior to 1990)

– Reaffirmed 1998

– Reaffirmed (Res30-14)

– Edited 2016

### **Integrity and the Values and Principles Embedded in the Tradition of Medicine**

MSMS supports the 1996 House of Delegates resolution on "Statement on Integrity and the Values and Principles Embedded in the Tradition of Medicine." (See Addendum E in website version) (Board Action Report #9, 1996 HOD)