

**IDAHO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

**JULY 19-21, 2019**

RESOLUTION 101(19)

SUBJECT: PRIVATE PAYER COVERAGE OF NEWBORN HEARING  
SCREENING

AUTHOR: BARRY BENNETT, MD

SPONSORED BY: IDAHO FALLS MEDICAL SOCIETY

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1 WHEREAS, Strong evidence shows newborn hearing screening leads to  
2 earlier identification and treatment of babies with hearing  
3 loss; and

4

5 WHEREAS, According to the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP),  
6 hearing loss is one of the most frequently occurring birth  
7 defects; approximately three infants per 1,000 are born with  
8 moderate, profound or severe hearing loss; and

9

10 WHEREAS, Hearing loss not detected and treated early can impede  
11 speech, language and cognitive development; and

12

13 WHEREAS, Thirty-six states have laws requiring hearing screening for  
14 newborns and seventeen states require private health  
15 payers to cover the screening; and

**ADOPTED**

1 WHEREAS, Idaho's current statute requires Phenylketonuria (PKU) and  
2 preventable diseases to be screened in newborns<sup>1</sup>, however,  
3 hearing screening or private health payer reimbursement is  
4 not required; and

5  
6 WHEREAS, The Affordable Care Act (ACA) plans follow the U.S.  
7 Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF)  
8 recommendations for required coverages, however,  
9 USPSTF has not provided recommendations for hearing  
10 screening; and

11  
12 WHEREAS, Idaho's 2016 data indicates 98.5 percent of newborns are  
13 screened; therefore be it

14  
15 RESOLVED, That Idaho Medical Association partner with the Idaho State  
16 Department of Health and Welfare and other stakeholders to  
17 establish regulations and hospital guidelines for newborn  
18 hearing screening; and be it further

19  
20 RESOLVED, That Idaho Medical Association work with private payers for  
21 newborn hearing screening to be an insurance covered  
22 benefit in the state of Idaho.

23

**ADOPTED**

1 EXISTING IMA POLICY: IMA has a history of working with the appropriate

2 partners to improve newborn screening in Idaho.

3

4 IMA FISCAL NOTE: \$\$

5 STATE OF IDAHO FISCAL NOTE: N/A

6 IMA RESOURCE ALLOCATION: MODERATE

7 DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY: HIGH

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<sup>i</sup> Idaho Statute 39-909. TESTS FOR PHENYLKETONURIA AND PREVENTABLE DISEASES IN NEWBORN INFANTS. It shall be the duty of the administrative officer or other person in charge of each hospital or other institution caring for newborn infants and the person responsible for the registration of the birth of such infants under section 39-255, Idaho Code, to cause to have administered to every newborn infant in its or his care a test for phenylketonuria and such other tests for preventable diseases as prescribed by the state board of health and welfare. The person administering such tests shall make such reports of the results thereof as required by the state board of health and welfare.

**IDAHO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

**JULY 19-21, 2019**

RESOLUTION 102(19)

SUBJECT: SPINAL MUSCULAR ATROPHY NEWBORN SCREENING

AUTHOR: KELLY J. ANDERSON, MD

SPONSORED BY: IDAHO FALLS MEDICAL SOCIETY

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1 WHEREAS, Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) is a genetic disorder that  
2 affects the motor nerve cells in the spinal cord. SMA is a  
3 neurodegenerative disease affecting physical strength,  
4 impeding ability to walk, swallow and in severe cases, the  
5 ability to breathe; and

6  
7 WHEREAS, SMA affects approximately 1 in 11,000 babies and is the  
8 number one genetic cause of death among infants; and

9  
10 WHEREAS, About 1 in 50 people are genetic carriers and, if both parents  
11 are carriers, the child has a 1 in 4 chance of having SMA;  
12 and

13  
14 WHEREAS, SMA was added to the National Recommended Uniform  
15 Screening Panel in July 2018 with recommendations for  
16 states to include in conditions to screen for infants; and

**ADOPTED**

1 WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
2 Secretary has approved adding SMA to the newborn  
3 screening panel; and  
4

5 WHEREAS, Idaho data estimates two babies are born annually with  
6 SMA, 67 individuals are currently living with SMA and there  
7 are 30,647 SMA carriers; and  
8

9 WHEREAS, Including SMA in the newborn screening panel will help  
10 parents get swift treatment for children with the condition,  
11 possibly preventing death or serious health problems;  
12 therefore be it  
13

14 RESOLVED, That the Idaho Medical Association adopt policy recognizing  
15 that newborn screening of spinal muscular atrophy in Idaho  
16 is an important public health issue; and be it further  
17

18 RESOLVED, That the Idaho Medical Association partner with the Idaho  
19 State Department of Health and Welfare and other  
20 stakeholders to establish regulations and hospital guidelines  
21 for newborn screening of spinal muscular atrophy.  
22

23 EXISTING IMA POLICY: IMA has a history of working with the appropriate  
24 partners to improve newborn screening in Idaho.

**ADOPTED**

- 1 IMA FISCAL NOTE: \$
- 2 STATE OF IDAHO FISCAL NOTE: N/A
- 3 IMA RESOURCE ALLOCATION: LOW
- 4 DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY: LOW

**IDAHO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

**JULY 19-21, 2019**

**RESOLUTION 103(19)**

**SUBJECT: IMPORTANCE OF CARDIOPULMONARY  
RESUSCITATION (CPR) TRAINING FOR IDAHO PUBLIC  
SCHOOL STAFF, TEACHERS AND COACHES**

**AUTHOR: CRISTINA LEON, DO**

**SPONSORED BY: SOUTHEASTERN IDAHO DISTRICT MEDICAL SOCIETY**

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1 WHEREAS, Sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) is defined as the “sudden  
2 cessation of cardiac activity so that the victim becomes  
3 unresponsive, with no normal breathing and no signs of  
4 circulation.”<sup>(1)</sup> If corrective measures are not taken rapidly,  
5 this condition progresses to sudden cardiac death (SCD).  
6 Cardiac arrest is used to signify an event that can be  
7 reversed, usually by cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR),  
8 administration of medications and/or defibrillation or  
9 cardioversion; and

10

11 WHEREAS, There are more than 350,000 adult out-of-hospital cardiac  
12 arrests (OHCA) annually in the United States of America and  
13 nearly 90 percent of them are fatal.<sup>(2)</sup> The incidence in the  
14 pediatric population has not been well reported, but it is  
15 estimated to be 20 in 100,000 children.<sup>(3)</sup> Sudden cardiac  
16 arrest (SCA) or sudden cardiac death (SCD) in children and  
17 adolescents is a devastating event. Strategies for prevention

**ADOPTED AS AMENDED**

1 include both primary as well as secondary prevention  
2 strategies, and these strategies are not mutually exclusive.  
3 The American Academy of Pediatrics Policy Statement on  
4 Pediatric Sudden Cardiac Arrest addresses that it is critically  
5 important to promote and advocate for CPR and automated  
6 external defibrillator (AED) education for everyone. It is  
7 known that CPR and AEDs save the lives of children,  
8 adolescents, and adults and that a society that is able and  
9 willing to perform CPR will result in an increase in the  
10 incidence of lay-rescuer CPR and will save more lives; and

11  
12 WHEREAS, Current statistics show that if more people knew CPR, more  
13 lives could be saved. It is known that education programs for  
14 effective bystander CPR and appropriate AED use as well as  
15 the development of effective school emergency response  
16 programs have been successful throughout the country. The  
17 state of Idaho currently requires CPR training for all high  
18 school students prior to graduation, but there are no  
19 requirements for school staff, teachers and coaches to be  
20 trained in CPR; therefore be it

21  
22 RESOLVED, Idaho Medical Association work with the American Heart  
23 Association and relevant education organizations to bring  
24 cardiopulmonary resuscitation programs to all Idaho schools



1 and help create the next generation of lifesavers as well as  
2 encourage that the staff members at all schools are trained;  
3 and be it further

4

5 RESOLVED, Idaho Medical Association work with the American Heart  
6 Association and Idaho school systems to implement cardiac  
7 resuscitation quality improvement programs in all Idaho  
8 schools and encourage that all staff members involved in any  
9 aspect of physical activity programs or athletics are trained  
10 in cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

11

12 IMA POLICY: NONE

13

14 IMA FISCAL NOTE: \$\$

15 STATE OF IDAHO FISCAL NOTE: Potential impact on public school budget

16 IMA RESOURCE ALLOCATION: MODERATE

17 DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY: MODERATE

18

19 References:

- 20 1. 2017 AHA/ACC/HRS Guideline for Management of Patients with  
21 Ventricular Arrhythmias and the Prevention of Sudden Cardiac Death. A  
22 Report of the American College of Cardiology/ American Heart  
23 Association Task Force on Clinical Practice Guidelines and the Heart  
24 Rhythm Society.

- 1 2. [https://www.sca-aware.org/sca-news/resuscitation-quality-improvement-](https://www.sca-aware.org/sca-news/resuscitation-quality-improvement-programs-offer-a-comprehensive-solution-to-help-improve-o)
- 2 [programs-offer-a-comprehensive-solution-to-help-improve-o](https://www.sca-aware.org/sca-news/resuscitation-quality-improvement-programs-offer-a-comprehensive-solution-to-help-improve-o) and
- 3 [https://cpr.heart.org/AHA/ECC/CPRAndECC/Training/CPRInSchoolsTraini](https://cpr.heart.org/AHA/ECC/CPRAndECC/Training/CPRInSchoolsTrainingKits/UCM_473191_CPR-In-Schools-Training-Kits.jsp)
- 4 [ngKits/UCM\\_473191\\_CPR-In-Schools-Training-Kits.jsp](https://cpr.heart.org/AHA/ECC/CPRAndECC/Training/CPRInSchoolsTrainingKits/UCM_473191_CPR-In-Schools-Training-Kits.jsp)
- 5 3. <https://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/pediatrics/129/4/e1094.full.pdf>

**IDAHO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

**JULY 19-21, 2019**

RESOLUTION 104(19)

SUBJECT: GUN SAFETY PRACTICE RECOMMENDATIONS

AUTHORS: FAMILY MEDICINE RESIDENCY OF IDAHO RESIDENTS

SPONSORED BY: IDAHO ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

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1 WHEREAS, Firearm-related deaths and injuries are a major public health  
2 problem; and

3

4 WHEREAS, According to U.S. national statistics, the estimated rate of private  
5 gun ownership per 100 people in the U.S. is 120.5 in 2017<sup>(1)</sup>; and

6

7 WHEREAS, The U.S. national statistics report that there were 242 deaths by  
8 firearms in Idaho in 2016<sup>(2)</sup>; and

9

10 WHEREAS, According to the Idaho Division of Public Health, Idaho's suicide  
11 rate is 57 percent higher than the national average and  
12 consistently ranks among the highest in the nation<sup>(3)</sup>; and

13

14 WHEREAS, Sixty percent of completed suicides in Idaho were by firearms<sup>(3)</sup>;  
15 and

**ADOPTED**

1 WHEREAS, Gun safety laws in Idaho are among the weakest in the nation with  
2 Idaho receiving an F ranking from the Giffords Center to Prevent  
3 Gun Violence in 2018 and ranking 48 out of 50 states for gun law  
4 strength<sup>(4)</sup>; and

5  
6 WHEREAS, In an article published in the Annals of Internal Medicine in 2015,  
7 the authors share that “Patients trust their physicians to advise  
8 them on issues that affect their health, and physicians can answer  
9 questions and educate the public on the risks of firearm ownership  
10 and the need for firearm safety”<sup>(5)</sup>; therefore be it

11  
12 RESOLVED, That Idaho Medical Association adopt policy in support of  
13 improving gun safety without infringing on second amendment  
14 rights; and be it further

15  
16 RESOLVED, That Idaho Medical Association urge their members to increase  
17 awareness of gun safety among their patient populations; and be it  
18 further

19  
20 RESOLVED, That Idaho Medical Association encourage members to use  
21 established screening and educational tools such as Eddie Eagle  
22 provided by the National Rifle Association and other professional  
23 associations such as the American Academy of Family Physicians

1 and American Medical Association to educate patients on gun  
2 safety; and be it further

3

4 RESOLVED, That Idaho Medical Association identify organizations providing  
5 free trigger locks and offer that information to members interested  
6 in furnishing them to their patients.

7

8 IMA POLICY: IMA opposes legislation that would require written notification to patients  
9 indicating that answering questions regarding ownership of  
10 firearms is voluntary. The Board had significant discussion about  
11 the difficulty or impossibility to comply with the proposed law, as  
12 most EHR templates do not allow for such notices to be  
13 incorporated. (BOT, Feb 2013)

14

15 IMA FISCAL NOTE: \$

16 STATE OF IDAHO FISCAL NOTE: N/A

17 IMA RESOURCE ALLOCATION: LOW

18 DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY: LOW

19

20 References:

21 1. Estimated Global Civilian-held Firearms Numbers, June 2018

22 <http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/fileadmin/docs/T-Briefing-Papers/SAS-BP->

23 [Civilian-Firearms-Numbers.pdf](http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/fileadmin/docs/T-Briefing-Papers/SAS-BP-Civilian-Firearms-Numbers.pdf)

**ADOPTED**

- 1        2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Firearm Mortality Rates.  
2            [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/sosmap/firearm\\_mortality/firearm.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/sosmap/firearm_mortality/firearm.htm)
- 3        3. Idaho Department of Health and Welfare Suicide Prevention Program.  
4            <http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/Families/SuicidePreventionProgram/Statistics>  
5            [andFacts/tabid/1922/Default.aspx](http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/Families/SuicidePreventionProgram/Statistics)
- 6        4. Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence.  
7            <https://giffordslawcenter.networkforgood.com/projects/38759-giffords-law-center->  
8            [to-prevent-gun-violence](https://giffordslawcenter.networkforgood.com/projects/38759-giffords-law-center-)
- 9        5. Annals of Internal Medicine, April 7, 2015.  
10           <https://annals.org/aim/fullarticle/2151828/firearm-related-injury-death-united->  
11           [states-call-action-from-8](https://annals.org/aim/fullarticle/2151828/firearm-related-injury-death-united-)
- 12       6. National Rifle Association Eddie Eagle Gunsafe Program.  
13           <https://eddieeagle.nra.org/>

**IDAHO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

**JULY 19-21, 2019**

RESOLUTION 105(19)

SUBJECT: UNIFORM IDAHO PRACTITIONER CREDENTIALS  
VERIFICATION APPLICATION

AUTHORS: JESSICA JAMESON, MD AND HOLLIE MILLS, MD

SPONSORED BY: KOOTENAI-BENEWAH DISTRICT MEDICAL SOCIETY

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1 WHEREAS, Idaho Medical Association established the Idaho Practitioner  
2 Credentials Verification Application in 2005 with various  
3 stakeholders, including payers and medical office managers;  
4 and

5  
6 WHEREAS, A uniform credentialing application accepted by all  
7 commercial payers allows physicians and other healthcare  
8 providers to complete one application, one time, to become  
9 contracted with selected payers; and

10  
11 WHEREAS, Credentialing or recredentialing is a prerequisite to the final  
12 decision of a health benefit plan to permit initial or continued  
13 participation by a physician or other healthcare provider; and

14  
15 WHEREAS, Today, physicians face the redundant and time-consuming  
16 process of credentialing or recredentialing with individual  
17 health plans once every three years. Easing the

**ADOPTED**

1                   credentialing process is an important step in our efforts to  
2                   simplify the business of health care; and

3  
4   WHEREAS,       Any health benefit plan that is offered, issued or renewed in  
5                   Idaho shall provide for credentialing and recredentialing of  
6                   physicians and other healthcare providers based on criteria  
7                   provided in the Idaho Practitioner Credentials Verification  
8                   Application; and

9  
10   WHEREAS,      Upon receipt of primary source verification and malpractice  
11                   history by the plan, the plan shall determine if the application  
12                   is a clean application. If the application is deemed clean, a  
13                   plan shall have specified calendar days within which to  
14                   credential or recredential a physician or other healthcare  
15                   provider. As used in this paragraph, clean application means  
16                   an application that has no defect, misstatement of facts,  
17                   improprieties, including a lack of any required substantiating  
18                   documentation, or particular circumstance requiring special  
19                   treatment that impedes prompt credentialing or  
20                   recredentialing; and

21  
22   WHEREAS,      Establishing the same or similar effective dates with all  
23                   selected payers will ease scheduling of patients and not  
24                   require patients to wait for appointments until the physician

**ADOPTED**



1 or healthcare provider receives credential approval at a later  
2 date; therefore be it

3  
4 RESOLVED, Idaho Medical Association adopt policy in support of  
5 developing a uniform Idaho Practitioner Credentials  
6 Verification Application that would be used by commercial  
7 payers and Idaho hospitals; and be it further

8  
9 RESOLVED, Idaho Medical Association adopt policy in support of allowing  
10 physicians and other healthcare providers to indicate in their  
11 commercial payer contracts the effective date they plan to  
12 start treating patients; and be it further

13  
14 RESOLVED, Idaho Medical Association will work with stakeholders,  
15 including commercial payers and Idaho Department of  
16 Insurance, to adopt the Idaho Practitioner Credentials  
17 Verification Application as the accepted form of credentialing  
18 with commercial payers and Idaho hospitals; and be it further

19  
20 RESOLVED, Idaho Medical Association support legislation to require  
21 commercial payers and Idaho hospitals to accept the Idaho  
22 Practitioner Credentials Verification Application.

23  
24 EXISTING IMA POLICY: NONE

**ADOPTED**

- 1 IMA FISCAL NOTE: \$\$\$
- 2 STATE OF IDAHO FISCAL NOTE: N/A
- 3 IMA RESOURCE ALLOCATION: HIGH
- 4 DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY: HIGH

**IDAHO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

**JULY 19-21, 2019**

RESOLUTION 106(19)

SUBJECT: REDUCING PRIOR AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENTS

AUTHOR: DAVID RICE, MD

SPONSORED BY: NORTH IDAHO MEDICAL SOCIETY

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1 WHEREAS, In 2017, the Idaho Medical Association (IMA) adopted the  
2 American Medical Association's (AMA) Prior Authorization  
3 and Utilization Management Reform Principles; and

4

5 WHEREAS, Item ten of the AMA Principles states that utilization review  
6 entities should make statistics regarding prior authorization  
7 approval and denial rates publicly available in a readily  
8 accessible format; and

9

10 WHEREAS, Physicians complete an average of 31 prior authorizations  
11 per week, utilizing administrative and physician time of  
12 roughly 14.9 hours or two business days; and

13

14 WHEREAS, Costs associated with prior authorization requirements need  
15 to be reduced through standardization and streamlining  
16 activities between physicians and payers; and

**ADOPTED AS AMENDED**

1 WHEREAS, Utilization management programs, such as prior  
2 authorizations and step therapy, can create significant  
3 barriers for patients by delaying the start or continuation of  
4 necessary treatment; and

5  
6 WHEREAS, Current prior authorization processes undermine the  
7 physicians' expertise for determining their patients' preferred  
8 treatment options; and

9  
10 WHEREAS, A 2018 American Medical Association survey finds prior  
11 authorizations have increased over the past five years and  
12 85 percent of physicians reported interference with patients'  
13 continuity of care<sup>i</sup>; therefore be it

14  
15 RESOLVED, Idaho Medical Association adopt policy and work with an  
16 organized coalition of physicians, payers, associations and  
17 the Idaho Department of Insurance to advocate that payers  
18 publicly post their utilization review data for all prior  
19 authorization services and medications, and eliminate prior  
20 authorization requirements for services and medications with  
21 approval rates of 85 percent or higher; and be it further

22  
23 RESOLVED, If feasible, Idaho Medical Association will sponsor and  
24 advocate for the passage of legislation to require commercial

1                   payers to publicly post their utilization review data for all prior  
2                   authorization services and medications, and eliminate prior  
3                   authorization requirements for services and medications with  
4                   approval rates of 85 percent or higher.

5

6   EXISTING IMA POLICY: Prior Authorization Reform; 105(2017)

7                   Prior Authorization Standardization; 109(2016)

8                   Standardized Prior Authorization Process; 101(2015)

9                   Prior Authorization for Medication; 110(2014)

10                  Concerns with Medicaid Prior Authorizations; 16(2013)

11                  Improving Prior Authorization Process; 14(2010)

12                  Reimbursement for Physician Time Spent in Obtaining

13                  Prior Authorization; 9(2006)

14

15   IMA FISCAL NOTE: \$\$\$\$

16   STATE OF IDAHO FISCAL NOTE: N/A

17   IMA RESOURCE ALLOCATION: HIGH

18   DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY: HIGH

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<sup>i</sup> American Medical Association Physician 2018 survey: <https://www.ama-assn.org/system/files/2019-02/prior-auth-2018.pdf>

Industry checkup: <https://www.ama-assn.org/system/files/2019-03/prior-auth-survey.pdf>

**IDAHO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

**JULY 19-21, 2019**

RESOLUTION 107(19)

SUBJECT: PRESCRIPTION DRUG AFFORDABILITY AND  
ACCESSIBILITY

AUTHOR: BRUCE BELZER, MD

SPONSORED BY: BRUCE BELZER, MD

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1 WHEREAS, The cost of prescription drugs is rising rapidly; and

2

3 WHEREAS, The cost of prescription drugs represents a significant  
4 challenge to the Idaho budget for Medicaid and CHIP  
5 expenditures, Idaho employee and retiree health insurance,  
6 corrections' health care and the cost of coverage for the  
7 employees of public schools and institutions of public higher  
8 education for which Idaho shares the cost; and

9

10 WHEREAS, The cost of prescription drugs represents 21 percent of  
11 spending for employer sponsored insurance, creating a  
12 significant challenge to employers that struggle to provide  
13 health insurance to employees and their dependents while  
14 maintaining a competitive and viable business concern in  
15 Idaho; and

**ADOPTED**

1 WHEREAS, The cost of prescription drugs represents a significant and  
2 daily challenge to thousands of Idaho's residents, who  
3 experience difficulty accessing affordable medications; and  
4

5 WHEREAS, The unpredictability of new, high cost drugs and significant  
6 price increases for older drugs can strain the ability of Idaho  
7 agencies, private payers, and consumers to manage their  
8 budgets and access treatments; and  
9

10 WHEREAS, The lack of transparency in health insurance issuer costs,  
11 and wholesaler and pharmacy benefits manager discounts  
12 and margins prevents policymakers and the public from  
13 gaining a true understanding of the cost of the prescription  
14 drugs purchased; and  
15

16 WHEREAS, Providing pricing information across the prescription drug  
17 supply chain will help achieve pricing transparency; and  
18

19 WHEREAS, Pharmacies are an integral and critical partner in healthcare  
20 delivery, and  
21

22 WHEREAS, Pharmacies are the most knowledgeable about the cost of  
23 medications and variations in the cost of medications;  
24 therefore be it

1 RESOLVED, Idaho Medical Association adopt policy in support of  
2 prescription drug pricing transparency; and be it further

3

4 RESOLVED, Idaho Medical Association support prohibiting penalties to an  
5 entity that discloses alternative and less expensive methods  
6 for purchased medications; and be it further

7

8 RESOLVED, Idaho Medical Association encourages pharmacies to  
9 provide medication cost transparency information to patients;  
10 and be it further

11

12 RESOLVED, Idaho Medical Association advocate on a legislative agenda  
13 that a plan sponsor, health insurance issuer or pharmacy  
14 benefit manager may not:

15 a) Prohibit a pharmacist from discussing reimbursement  
16 criteria with a covered person;

17 b) Penalize a pharmacy or a pharmacist for disclosing  
18 cost information to a covered person or for selling a  
19 more affordable alternative to a covered person;

20 c) Require a pharmacy to charge or collect a copayment  
21 from a covered person that exceeds the total charges  
22 submitted by the network pharmacy.

**ADOPTED**



1 EXISTING IMA POLICY: IMA has adopted policy regarding the cost of  
2 prescription drugs similar to the American Medical  
3 Association (AMA) policy H-110.997. IMA delegation shall  
4 present a resolution to the November 2014 American  
5 Medical Association (AMA) interim meeting for action, and  
6 request the AMA to advocate for prescription drug cost  
7 containment, and to communicate concerns about the  
8 rapidly rising cost of generic prescription drugs to the  
9 Federal Drug Administration. (HOD 2014)

10

11 IMA FISCAL NOTE: \$\$\$

12 IDAHO OF IDAHO FISCAL NOTE: N/A

13 IMA RESOURCE ALLOCATION: HIGH

14 DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY: HIGH

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<sup>i</sup> Total spending for prescription drugs increased at an average annual rate of 5.2 percent between 2012 and 2017, compared with an average increase of 4.5 percent for all other health care services, equipment and supplies. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Table 2 – National Health Expenditures; Aggregate, Annual Percent Change, Percent Distribution and Per Capita Amounts, by Type of Expenditure: Selected Calendar Years 1960-2017 [<https://www.cms.gov/research-statistics-data-and-systems/statistics-trends-and-reports/nationalhealthexpenddata/index.html>].

**IDAHO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

**JULY 19-21, 2019**

RESOLUTION 108(19)

SUBJECT: AVAILABILITY OF LIQUID OXYGEN

AUTHOR: BENJAMIN CALL, MD, FACC

SPONSORED BY: SOUTHEASTERN IDAHO DISTRICT MEDICAL SOCIETY

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1 WHEREAS, More than 1.5M Americans use supplemental oxygen, a  
2 therapy that can improve the quantity and quality of life for  
3 adults living with chronic lung and heart diseases; and  
4

5 WHEREAS, Portable oxygen delivery systems are important for patients  
6 requiring supplemental oxygen by making it possible for  
7 them to leave their home, thus becoming more active  
8 physically, more likely to be gainfully employed, and more  
9 likely to maintain their emotional, social and financial  
10 independence; and  
11

12 WHEREAS, Liquid oxygen (LOX) is the preferred portable oxygen  
13 delivery system for patients requiring high flow oxygen (>3  
14 Liters/minute) with activity because it is the only portable  
15 oxygen delivery system capable of delivering greater than 3  
16 L/min of continuous oxygen flow, and because it has the  
17 greatest ability to deliver oxygen for longer duration at an  
18 acceptable weight (i.e. 2 L/min continuous flow for eight

**ADOPTED AS AMENDED**

1 hours at a device weight of 8.5 pounds), as opposed to  
2 portable oxygen concentrators which can deliver at most 3.0  
3 L/min continuous flow, and which have lesser ability to  
4 provide a reasonable duration of flow at a reasonable weight  
5 (i.e. 2 L/min continuous flow for 5 hours at a weight of 18  
6 pounds, or for 3 hours at a weight of 10 pounds); and  
7

8 WHEREAS, Consequent to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid  
9 Services (CMS) Competitive Bidding Program initiated in  
10 2011, Medicare reimbursement for medical oxygen and  
11 equipment has fallen nationally to about one half the  
12 precompetitive bidding level, contributing to a fall in the  
13 number of oxygen suppliers from 10,465 in July 2013 to  
14 6,181 in April 2017, and a major reduction in the availability  
15 of LOX, the most costly of the portable oxygen systems; and  
16

17 WHEREAS, Consistent with national trends in rural settings, suppliers of  
18 medical oxygen in Idaho report that they currently receive  
19 about one third the reimbursement they received in 2015 for  
20 an oxygen setup, and can no longer afford to offer LOX due  
21 largely to the non-reimbursable cost of making regular  
22 deliveries of LOX to patient homes, resulting in a dramatic  
23 decline in the availability of LOX, with nearly all oxygen  
24 suppliers surveyed reporting that they no longer provide LOX

1 to new patients, and are working to transition existing LOX  
2 patients to a “non-delivery” model; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, Without access to LOX, patients requiring high-flow oxygen  
5 are being treated with inadequate and physically  
6 unmanageable portable oxygen delivery options, often  
7 subjecting these patients to confinement in their home,  
8 resulting in an impaired quality of life, greater social isolation,  
9 less opportunity for gainful employment, and less opportunity  
10 for physical activity; and

11  
12 WHEREAS, Due to reduced reimbursement for all oxygen supplies and  
13 equipment, and absence of reimbursement for oxygen  
14 related patient support services, there has been a major  
15 reduction in the availability of respiratory therapists to  
16 perform necessary in-home support services including  
17 education, setup, assessment, monitoring and training, all of  
18 which are needed to achieve effective clinical outcomes,  
19 patient compliance, and patient satisfaction; and

20  
21 WHEREAS, A recent national survey of 1,926 patients receiving oxygen  
22 supplementation found that their greatest source of  
23 dissatisfaction was the inability to access portable liquid  
24 oxygen; therefore be it

1 RESOLVED, Idaho Medical Association support efforts by our  
2 American Medical Association to actively support policy  
3 to remove liquid oxygen from the competitive bidding  
4 system and return payments for liquid oxygen to a  
5 Medicare fee schedule basis; and be it further

6  
7 RESOLVED, Idaho Medical Association, in its role as advocate for the  
8 health of the citizens of the State of Idaho whose  
9 physicians it represents, formally recognize that for many  
10 patients dependent on continuous supplemental oxygen,  
11 the inability to access a full range of oxygen delivery  
12 systems becomes an issue of sizable proportion, one  
13 which attacks their sense of well-being and  
14 independence and impacts their relations with employers  
15 and family on a daily basis, and one for which patient  
16 advocates are few; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, Idaho Medical Association respectfully extend an  
18 invitation to the Honorable Mike Crapo, United States  
19 Senator, Member of the Senate Finance Committee, and  
20 Co-Chair of the Congressional COPD Caucus, to enlist  
21 legislative and other support to escalate this issue to one  
22 of high priority.

23

24 EXISTING IMA POLICY: NONE

**ADOPTED AS AMENDED**

1

2 IMA FISCAL NOTE: \$

3 STATE OF IDAHO FISCAL NOTE: N/A

4 IMA RESOURCE ALLOCATION: LOW

5 DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY: LOW

**IDAHO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

**JULY 19-21, 2019**

RESOLUTION 109(19)

SUBJECT: PHYSICIAN COMPLAINTS REPORTED TO IDAHO  
DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

AUTHOR: PAUL BROOKE, MD AND LINDIE BORTON, MD

SPONSORED BY: IDAHO DERMATOLOGY SOCIETY

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1 WHEREAS, The Idaho Department of Insurance (DOI) has been  
2 regulating the business of insurance in Idaho and has a  
3 mission to serve and protect Idahoans by administering the  
4 Idaho Insurance Code; and

5  
6 WHEREAS, The DOI Consumer Services Bureau serves as a free  
7 resource, providing general information about insurance and  
8 responds to consumer inquiries and complaints; and

9  
10 WHEREAS, The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of  
11 1996 (HIPAA) allows physicians and other healthcare  
12 providers to discuss information about a patient when  
13 needed for treatment, payment or when it falls into the  
14 category of healthcare operations; and

**ADOPTED**

1 WHEREAS, Physicians and other healthcare providers have been unable  
2 to file complaints to the DOI under the incorrect assumption  
3 that it is a HIPAA violation; therefore be it

4

5 RESOLVED, Idaho Medical Association adopt policy in support of creating  
6 a process for physicians to file complaints and report issues  
7 related to possible violations of Idaho Insurance Code to the  
8 Idaho Department of Insurance; and be it further

9

10 RESOLVED, Idaho Medical Association will work with the Idaho  
11 Department of Insurance to develop a process for physicians  
12 to report possible violations while maintaining patients'  
13 privacy under the Health Insurance Portability and  
14 Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) regulations.

15

16 EXISTING IMA POLICY: The IMA has a long history of working with the Idaho  
17 Department of Insurance to improve DOI/physician relations  
18 and policy. We currently have no policy on this specific  
19 aspect of DOI relations.

20

21 IMA FISCAL NOTE: \$\$

22 STATE OF IDAHO FISCAL NOTE: Nominal

23 IMA RESOURCE ALLOCATION: MODERATE

24 DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY: HIGH

**ADOPTED**



**IDAHO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

**JULY 19-21, 2019**

RESOLUTION 110(19)

SUBJECT: MINOR CONSENT FOR VACCINATIONS

AUTHORS: PATRICK MARVIL, MD AND CRYSTAL PYRAK, MD

SPONSORED BY: KOOTENAI CLINIC FAMILY MEDICINE COEUR D' ALENE  
RESIDENCY, KOOTENAI-BENEWAH DISTRICT MEDICAL  
SOCIETY AND IDAHO ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

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1 WHEREAS, Vaccine preventable diseases are a major public health problem;  
2 and

3

4 WHEREAS, By April of 2019, the number of measles cases in the United  
5 States had already exceeded the most cases in a year since  
6 measles was declared eliminated in 2000; and

7

8 WHEREAS, It is legal in Idaho for minors to consent to their own care in certain  
9 instances concerning mental health hospitalization, family  
10 planning, drug rehabilitation, and under other specific  
11 circumstances; and

12

13 WHEREAS, It is legal in Idaho for minors fourteen years of age or older to  
14 consent for contraceptive services, sexually transmitted infection  
15 services, and prenatal care; and

**ADOPTED**

1 WHEREAS, The World Health Organization lists vaccine hesitancy – the  
2 reluctance or refusal to vaccinate despite the availability of  
3 vaccines – as one of the “Top Ten Threats to Global Health in  
4 2019”; and

5  
6 WHEREAS, The American Academy of Pediatrics states that adolescent  
7 minors, in appropriate circumstances, should be allowed to give  
8 consent for themselves for vaccines so that as many adolescents  
9 as possible receive the benefit of immunization against vaccine-  
10 preventable diseases; therefore be it

11  
12 RESOLVED, That Idaho Medical Association reaffirm their policy in support of  
13 all efforts towards reducing barriers and improving childhood  
14 vaccination rates in Idaho; and be it further

15  
16 RESOLVED, That Idaho Medical Association support and advocate for  
17 legislation in Idaho that expands rights of minors fourteen years of  
18 age or older such that they can consent for vaccinations.

19  
20 EXISTING IMA POLICY: IMA has nearly twenty policies in place strongly supporting  
21 immunizations and ensuring immunizations are available to all  
22 Idahoans.

23  
24 IMA FISCAL NOTE: \$\$\$

**ADOPTED**

1 STATE OF IDAHO FISCAL NOTE: N/A

2 IMA RESOURCE ALLOCATION: HIGH

3 DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY: HIGH

4

5 References:

6 1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Measles

7 <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/hcp/index.html>

8 2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, HPV Vaccine Information

9 <https://www.cdc.gov/hpv/hcp/need-to-know.pdf>

10 3. Idaho Code

11 <https://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/Portals/0/Health/Disease/IdahoSTDCode200>

12 [7.pdf](#)

13 4. World Health Organization, Ten Threats to Global Health in 2019

14 <https://www.who.int/emergencies/ten-threats-to-global-health-in-2019>

15 5. Legal Basis of Consent for Health Care and Vaccination for Adolescents

16 [https://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/pediatrics/121/Supplement\\_1/S85.f](https://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/pediatrics/121/Supplement_1/S85.f)

17 [ull.pdf](#)

**IDAHO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

**JULY 19-21, 2019**

RESOLUTION 111(19)

SUBJECT: SCREENING, INTERVENTION AND TREATMENT FOR  
ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES

AUTHOR: THOMAS PATTERSON, MD

SPONSORED BY: THOMAS PATTERSON, MD

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1 WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the  
2 Substance Abuse and Mental Services Health Administration  
3 and the American Academy of Pediatrics have all attributed  
4 Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) as a contributing  
5 factor for mental health and disease states. ACEs can  
6 include physical, mental or sexual abuse, or neglect. It also  
7 includes children who experience divorce, who have a  
8 parent with a substance abuse problem or mental illness, or  
9 a relative who is incarcerated; and

10

11 WHEREAS, ACEs have been associated with myocardial infarction,  
12 chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, mental distress,  
13 depression, smoking, disability, substance abuse, coronary  
14 artery disease, Alzheimer's disease, stroke and diabetes.  
15 ACEs have also been associated with decreased income,  
16 unemployment, lack of health insurance, further victimization  
17 as adults of abuse and lower education attainment; and

**ADOPTED**

1 WHEREAS, That seven of the top ten causes of death have a graded  
2 relationship to ACE scores; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, Identifying and intervening on children early with adequate  
5 community, behavioral or mental health resources may  
6 benefit children. Adults can be referred for post-trauma  
7 treatment or support groups; and

8  
9 WHEREAS, The American Medical Association adopted an Adverse  
10 Childhood Experiences and Trauma Informed Care policy at  
11 the 2019 Annual House of Delegates; therefore be it

12  
13 RESOLVED, Idaho Medical Association adopt policy in support of  
14 physicians and other healthcare providers performing  
15 screening, intervention and treatment for Adverse Childhood  
16 Experiences (ACEs); and be it further

17  
18 RESOLVED, Idaho Medical Association partner with the American  
19 Medical Association to support their Adverse Childhood  
20 Experiences and Trauma Informed Care policy:

- 21 1. Evidence-based primary prevention strategies for  
22 Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs);  
23 2. Evidence-based, trauma-informed care in all medical  
24 settings that focuses on the prevention of poor health

**ADOPTED**

- 1 and life outcomes after ACEs or other trauma occurs;
- 2 3. Efforts for data collection, research and evaluation of
- 3 cost-effective ACEs screening tools without additional
- 4 burden for physicians;
- 5 4. Efforts to educate physicians about the facilitators,
- 6 barriers and best practices for physicians
- 7 implementing ACEs screening and trauma-informed
- 8 care approaches into a clinical setting; and
- 9 5. Funding for schools, behavioral and mental health
- 10 services, professional groups, community and
- 11 governmental agencies to support patients with ACEs
- 12 or trauma.

13

14 EXISTING IMA POLICY: NONE

15

16 IMA FISCAL NOTE: \$

17 STATE OF IDAHO FISCAL NOTE: N/A

18 IMA RESOURCE ALLOCATION: LOW

19 DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY: LOW

**ADOPTED**