

DISCLAIMER

The following is a preliminary report of actions taken by the House of Delegates at its 2008 Annual Meeting and should not be considered final. Only the Official Proceedings of the House of Delegates reflect official policy of the Association.

AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES (A-08)

Report of Reference Committee B

Craig W. Anderson, MD, Chair

In keeping with Resolution 601 (A-96), the Reference Committee recommends the following consent calendar for acceptance:

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

1. Board of Trustees Report 3 – Prescription Drug Monitoring to Prevent Abuse of Controlled Substances (Resolution 218, A-07)
- (1) BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT 3 - PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING TO PREVENT ABUSE OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES (RESOLUTION 218, A-07)

RECOMMENDATION:

Mr. Speaker, your Reference Committee recommends that the recommendations in Board of Trustees Report 3 be adopted and that the remainder of the report be filed.

HOD ACTION: Board of Trustees Report 3 adopted as amended by the addition of two new recommendations and the remainder of the report filed.

4. **That our AMA encourage and support the prompt development of, with appropriate privacy safeguards, treating physician's real time access to their patient's controlled substances prescriptions.**
5. **That our AMA advocate for the use of any information obtained through these programs be used first for education of the specific physicians involved prior to any civil action against these physicians.**

Board of Trustees Report 3 recommends that the following statements be adopted in lieu of Resolution 218 (A-07) and that the remainder of the report be filed: (1) That our American Medical Association (AMA) support the refinement of state-based prescription drug monitoring programs and development and implementation of appropriate

technology to allow for Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)-compliant sharing of information on prescriptions for controlled substances among states; (2) That AMA policy be that the sharing of information on prescriptions for controlled substance with out-of-state entities should be subject to same criteria and penalties for unauthorized use as in-state entities; (3) That our AMA actively support the funding of the National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Act of 2005 which would allow federally funded, intraoperative state based prescription drug monitoring programs as a tool for addressing patient misuse and diversion of controlled substances.

Your Reference Committee commends our Board of Trustees for an informative report on an important issue. Testimony was generally supportive of the report and the recommendations contained therein. Your Reference Committee appreciates and acknowledges several comments brought up in testimony regarding specific issues that your Reference Committee encourages our AMA to address as our work in this area continues, such as: 1) providing physicians with real time access to their patients' current prescriptions; 2) creating a system that is beneficial to physicians whose patients cross state lines frequently; and 3) HIPAA compliance for non-covered physicians. Your Reference Committee believes that the report provides a good foundation for AMA efforts to prevent the abuse of controlled substances and encourages the AMA to work to address the more specific issues brought up in testimony as work continues. Therefore, your Reference Committee recommends adoption.