

# 2006 RESOLUTIONS

*An AAOS Resolution is an official statement of policy, adopted by majority vote of the AAOS Fellowship casting ballots and binding on AAOS and its Board of Directors. An AAOS Resolution is not a product of a systematic review, but rather Open Hearings and the opinions of AAOS Fellows.*

## ***Review of Previously Adopted Resolutions***

### **Recertification**

#### **Academy – R2001A**

Adopted 2001; modified and retained 2006

- A. **Resolved**, that the Board of Directors of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (Academy) shall continue to communicate with the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery (ABOS) about the current recertification process. [Modify and Retain] (R2001A1)
- B. **Resolved**, that the Board of Directors of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons shall support the Academy – ABOS Work Group in its charge to broadly study and consider revisions in the current recertification process, with the goal of developing and implementing valid, reliable, credible, accountable, cost-effective and clinically relevant pathways that accurately assess an orthopaedic surgeon's continued competence in the areas of orthopaedics in which he or she practices, and be it further [Rescind] (R2001A2)
- C. **Resolved**, that the Academy – ABOS Work Group shall report its activities to the Board of Directors and Board of Councilors of the Academy and to the ABOS no less than annually and that these reports shall be disseminated to the Fellowship in a timely manner. [Rescind] (R2001A3)

### **Health Care Financing and the Tax Code**

#### **Association - R2001B**

Adopted 2001; modified and retained 2006

- A. **Resolved**, that the American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons shall support of federal tax free treatment for all purchases of legitimate health insurance packages, and shall take appropriate actions, including advocacy, in support of this position. [Modify and Retain] (R2001B)

### **Billing Codes for Evaluation and Management of Physician Services**

#### **Association - R2001C**

Adopted 2001; modified and retained 2006

- A. **Resolved**, that the American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons shall oppose by appropriate means the misuse of the Evaluation and Management codes (E&M codes) by the government, private payers and others; and be it further [Retain] (R2001C)
- B. **Resolved**, that the American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons shall support the modification of the E&M codes to make them less onerous; and be it further. [Retain] (2001C2)
- C. **Resolved**, that the American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons shall develop and/or endorse legislation that would eliminate criminal sanctions for inadvertent physician violations of government fraud and abuse statutes and regulations; and be it further [Rescind] (R2001C3)
- D. **Resolved**, that the American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons, in collaboration with other organizations, shall petition appropriate committees of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives to hold oversight hearings concerning the regulatory activities of HCFA. [Rescind] (R2001C4)

## Prompt Payment and Uniform Claims

### Association - R2001D

Adopted 2001; modified and retained 2006

- A. **Resolved**, that the American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons shall support legislation and policies that mandate the prompt payment of physician claims at the federal, state and private insurer levels; and be it further [Retain] (R2001D1)
- B. **Resolved**, that the American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons shall continue to monitor prompt payment legislation and policies, and shall develop specific recommendations about which legislation or policies are most effective from an orthopaedic surgeon's point of view, and be it further [Retain] (R2001D2)
- C. **Resolved**, that the American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons shall seek and support legislation that would require insurance companies to provide all fee schedules and edits upon request to prospective or existing contracted physicians. [Add] (R2001D3)

## Physician Practice in the Managed Care Environment

### Association – R1996B

Adopted 1990; retained 1996; modified and retained 2001; retained 2006

- A. **Resolved**, that it shall be a policy of the American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons to support and endorse legislation that would:
  - 1. Prohibit the dismissal of physicians who are members of managed care organization panels without due process;
  - 2. Prohibit financial incentives by a managed care organization which would deny or interfere with the provision of appropriate medical care; and
  - 3. Prohibit any policies, loyalty oaths or gag clauses of a managed care organization, which would impede or interfere with the physician-patient relationship; and be it further [Retain] (R1996B1)
- B. **Resolved**, that the American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons shall continue to monitor the issues of open panels in managed care for the purpose of measuring the effect of such panels upon patients, physicians, business, government, and the managed care industry. [Retain] (R1996B2)

## Medicare Reimbursement; Advocacy; Friend of the Court Briefs

### Association – R1991B

Adopted in 1991; retained in 1996; modified and retained in 2001; retained 2006

- A. **Resolved**, that the American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons shall take appropriate steps to challenge reductions in Medicare reimbursement for orthopaedic procedures, including ongoing consideration of legal action when appropriate, and be it further [Retain] (R1991B1)
- B. **Resolved**, that the American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons shall demonstrate that continued reductions in Medicare payments to physicians ultimately will jeopardize the availability of orthopaedic and other health care services and cause major disruptions of services; and that this concern be forcefully communicated to Congressional leaders, government agencies, national medical associations, and others as appropriate. [Retain] (R1991B2)
- C. **Resolved**, that the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons and the American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons shall submit "friend of the court" briefs or otherwise participate in litigation affecting orthopaedic surgeons and their patients. [Retain] (R1991B3)

## **FDA; Regulation of Orthopaedic Devices, Biological and Combination Products and Pharmaceuticals Academy – R1990B**

Adopted 1990; retained 1996; modified and retained 2001 and 2006

- A. Resolved**, that the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons shall encourage the timely and efficient development, introduction and ongoing surveillance of orthopaedic devices, biological and combination products, and pharmaceuticals in order to facilitate the safety, monitoring and availability of those products. [Modify and Retain] (R1990B)

## **Residency Review Committee Academy – R1989B**

Adopted 1989; modified and retained 1990, 1994, 1996, 2001, and 2006

- A. Resolved**, that the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons shall continue to strongly support the work of the Residency Review Committee on Orthopaedic Surgery in its role of accrediting residency and fellowship programs in an efficient and effective manner. [Modify and Retain] (R1989B)