

# Revised A-08 AMA Resolution 208

## FAIRNESS AND QUALITY IN MEDICAL IMAGING INTERPRETATION

WHEREAS, expenditures for advanced medical imaging services, such as CT, MRI and PET, have significantly increased in this decade, raising legitimate concerns over utilization rates;

WHEREAS, these concerns have led payers, state legislatures, government agencies and radiology management companies to consider eliminating reimbursement for in-office imaging and image interpretation by non-radiologists without consideration of their training and certified competence to provide these services; and

WHEREAS, available data do not suggest that increased imaging costs are necessarily attributable to in-office imaging services by most medical specialties involved in medical imaging and interpretation:

RESOLVED, That our AMA actively oppose efforts by federal and state legislators, regulatory bodies, private payers, public payers and radiology business management companies to preauthorize, precertify or otherwise restrict the application of advanced imaging services when such services are provided in accordance with appropriateness guidelines, practice guidelines and technical standards for the imaging modalities utilized, as developed by specialty societies involved with the diagnosis and treatment of such patients; and be it further

RESOLVED, That our AMA actively work to ensure that all physician specialties involved in the care of patients with specific illnesses who need imaging services have equal participation and authority in the development of quality and efficiency measures for imaging services; and be it further

RESOLVED, that our AMA report back to the House of Delegates on an annual basis on the actions taken by the AMA to oppose adverse actions to deny patients access to imaging services by physicians regardless of their specialty.