



LOS ANGELES COUNTY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
PHYSICIAN LEADERSHIP AND EXCELLENCE IN HEALTH CARE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LOS ANGELES COUNTY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION REINFORCES AMA'S CALL FOR A HEALTH INSURER CODE OF CONDUCT

Los Angeles – The Los Angeles County Medical Association, a professional association representing physicians from every medical specialty and practice setting as well as medical students, interns and residents, today announced its vigorous support for the American Medical Association's plan to develop a code of conduct for health insurance companies.

The AMA passed a resolution this week to develop a Health Insurer Code of Conduct setting forth clear and concise principles addressing both medical care policies and payment issues, seeking concurrence among health insurers in complying with this Code of Conduct. The AMA further plans to develop the mechanism to monitor compliance with this Code of Conduct and widely disseminate information regarding the Code of Conduct and health insurer compliance to physicians and consumers.

"We strongly believe that decisions concerning medical or surgical evaluations or treatments are best made by physicians in concert with their patients, without undue interference from insurance companies or health plans," said Howard R. Krauss, MD, President, Los Angeles County Medical Association.

The AMA's House of Delegates passed the Code of Conduct resolution by unanimous vote, after discussing recent data showing that ninety percent of physicians surveyed have had to change the way they treat patients based on restrictions from health insurers.

"Health insurers in California should proactively demonstrate their commitment to upholding the value of the doctor-patient relationship by adopting and adhering to a similar code of conduct," Dr. Krauss said.

To learn more about the AMA's code of conduct resolution, [click here](#).

The Los Angeles County Medical Association (LACMA) is a professional association representing physicians in all modes of practice and specialties, including solo practitioners, small and large-groups, hospital-based physicians, students, interns and residents. For 136 years, the organization has been at the forefront of current medicine, advocating for excellence in healthcare delivery and supporting physicians and their patients in the areas of healthcare policy, government relations, community relations and in the courts. Through these advocacy efforts LACMA's physician leadership and staff strive toward a common purpose -- to enhance the professionalism and clinical autonomy of physicians so that they may best advocate for their patients and the health of the people of Los Angeles.

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