

AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution: 709
(A-24)

Introduced by: American College of Emergency Physicians

Subject: Improvements to Patient Flow in the U.S. Healthcare System

Referred to: Reference Committee G

1 Whereas, delays in patient care result in increased morbidity and mortality^{1 2 3}; and

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3 Whereas, misaligned healthcare economics pressure hospitals to maintain high inpatient
4 census levels, often preferencing high-margin patients, leading to delays that compromise
5 emergency department, operative, and inpatient surge capacity⁴; and

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7 Whereas, lack of surge capacity may compromise our nation's emergency preparedness⁵; and

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9 Whereas, delayed patient flow through multiple care environments affects many portions of the
10 U.S. healthcare system, including access to post-acute care, emergency department care,
11 hospital-based care, surgical care, and primary care; therefore be it

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13 RESOLVED, that our American Medical Association work with relevant stakeholders and
14 propose recommendations to appropriate entities to improve patient flow and access to care
15 throughout multiple environments in the U.S. healthcare system. (Directive to Take Action)

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Fiscal Note: Moderate - between \$5,000 - \$10,000

Received: 4/24/2024

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