2016 Medical Association of Georgia

Appendix III of the Consent Calendar MAG Policies for Sunset with New Language As adopted by the House of Delegates

140.974 MAG's Ethical Principles of Managed Care -- HD 10/16/2011

MAG adopts the AMA's Ethical Principles of Managed Care and physician self-governance including disclosure provisions, selective contracting, financial incentives, case management, physician involvement, and utilization review and management. MAG opposes any de-selection of physicians from managed care plans based on physicians reporting of any managed care deviations from these ethical guidelines. MAG also adopts the following principles related to the effect of managed care (i.e., IPAs, PPOs, HMOs and ACOs) on the patient/physician relationship and advocates for governmental leaders to take appropriate actions to ensure that no entity inserts itself between the physician and his/her ability to treat and care for his/her patient: (1) that the physician/patient relationship is a covenant that is sacrosanct. This covenant includes concern for the patient, advocacy on behalf of the patient and a desire to assist in the healing of the patient; (2) that the profit motives and inappropriate cost containment strategies currently influencing the entire health care delivery system threatens to transform this covenant into a mere business contract; (3) that medicine and nursing must not be diverted from their primary tasks, which include the relief of suffering, the prevention and treatment of illness and the promotion of health; (4) that financial incentives that reward inappropriate care, whether through over utilization or under-utilization of health care services, should be prohibited; (5) that all patients should have the freedom to choose any physician they desire to see; (6) that all patients should have access to affordable health care coverage; (7) that health care decisions should be based on concern for the individual, and patients should be treated with dignity, compassion and respect; (8) in no way is this to be construed as support for a single payer national health care system; (9) MAG supports studies which address the impact and ethical implications of financial incentives, including discounted fee for service, withholds and capitated payments, on the quality of patient care delivered in managed care plans and on patient access to specialty care.

185.977 Pay for Performance -- HD 10/16/2011

MAG opposes pay for performance programs because they pose more risks than benefits for patients and physicians. MAG encourages the use of physician data to benefit both patients and physicians and to improve the quality of patient care and the efficient use of recourses resources in the delivery of health care services. While MAG respects innovations in assessing quality of care and cost efficiency, we do not believe the claims-driven profiling methods that insurance companies use in their pay for-performance programs are accurate and effective in achieving this goal.

540.950 Journal Directives -- HD 10/16/2011

545.957 Candidates for Office -- HD 5/1/1995

Candidates for offices including AMA delegates and alternate delegates must, prior to the House of Delegates meeting, explicitly state their stand on current issues affecting the practice of medicine in their letter announcing their candidacy or any other campaign vehicle used in order for voting members to properly vet the candidates.