

RESOLUTION 09.2019-06 (A-20)
REMOVAL OF THE REQUIREMENT OF SUBSTANCE CONTROL
LICENSURE FOR PRACTITIONERS WHO DO NOT INCLUDE THEM IN
THE SCOPE OF THEIR PRACTICE

ISMS Board Action Taken on 10/26/2019

Did not adopt Resolution 09.2019-06 (A-20).

Council on Education & Health Workforce Recommendation to
ISMS Board on 10/26/2019

There was some support for the principle that physicians should have the right to make their own decisions regarding federal and state controlled substance licensure, but there was also concern about the potential adverse effects or unintended consequences of encouraging physicians to forgo securing a controlled substances license. Having such licenses is often a credentialing requirement of hospitals or health plans, or a condition of employment with a group practice. The Council believed that the practical reasons to have such a requirement in these circumstances (e.g., continuity of care, the wide range of drugs classified as controlled substances, and the fluidity of drugs added to or removed from the list of controlled substances) made it reasonable for entities to make a business decision to require affiliated physicians to hold controlled substance licenses. It was also noted that as non-physician practitioners continue to expand their scopes of practice, it may become easier to find a non-MD/DO who is able to prescribe controlled substances if a physician chooses to opt out of doing so.

The Council on Education & Health Workforce recommends that the ISMS Board of Trustees not adopt Resolution 09.2019-06 (A-20).