

**RESOLUTION 12.2020-29 (A-21)**  
**ADVOCATING FOR ALL PAYER COVERAGE OF COSMETIC**  
**TREATMENT FOR SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE AND INTIMATE**  
**PARTNER VIOLENCE**

**ISMS Board Action Taken on 04/23/2021**

**Adopted Substitute Resolution 12.2020-29 (A-21) in lieu of Resolution 12.2020-29 (A-21), as recommended by the Council on Economics.**

Council on Economics Recommendation to ISMS Board on 04/23/2021

This resolution directs ISMS to acknowledge that cosmetic treatments may have significant benefits on patient outcomes; work with AMA, CMS and other stakeholders to encourage payers to cover costs associated with cosmetic treatments for survivors of domestic and IPV abuse; and introduce legislation encouraging all payers, including the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, to cover cosmetic treatment for survivors of domestic abuse.

The Council had a robust discussion with the sponsors of the resolution. One sponsor noted that third-party payers typically cover and reimburse medically necessary restorative care services provided to victims of domestic abuse and intimate partner violence. However, those payers usually deny coverage for care required to also address the emotional reminders of the physical injuries endured by these patients when the payer deems the services to be “cosmetic.” The sponsors believe coverage for such complementary care, in addition to medically necessary restorative care, significantly benefits the recovery of the “whole patient” and supports victims to help them overcome the emotional and traumatic impact of such violence. The Council was supportive of the sponsors’ compassionate approach to this difficult subject but noted that any legislation caused to be introduced by ISMS would not impact federal entities such as CMS. Revised wording was suggested to address the Council’s concerns and clarify the sponsors’ intent.

The Council on Economics recommends that the ISMS Board of Trustees adopt Substitute Resolution 12.2020-29 (A-21) in lieu of Resolution 12.2020-29 (A-21):

RESOLVED, that our ISMS urge all payers to consider aesthetic treatments for physical injury sustained from injuries of domestic and intimate partner violence as restorative treatments; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that our ISMS work with relevant stakeholders such as the American Medical Association and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Service to

40 encourage payers to cover costs associated with aesthetic treatments for physical injury  
41 sustained from abuse for survivors of domestic and/or intimate partner violence or  
42 abuse; and be it further,

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44 RESOLVED, that our ISMS seek or cause to be introduced legislation to the  
45 Illinois General assembly to require all third-party payers, including Medicaid MCOs,  
46 to reimburse necessary aesthetic services provided for treatment of physical injury in  
47 addition to the medically required restorative care provided to victims of domestic and  
48 intimate partner abuse; and be it further,

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50 RESOLVED, that our ISMS Delegation to the AMA introduce a similar  
51 resolution to the next AMA House of Delegates directing AMA to work with all relevant  
52 medical specialty societies, third party payers, including CMS, and other national  
53 stakeholders as deemed appropriate to require third party payers to include  
54 reimbursement for necessary aesthetic service for the treatment of physician injury  
55 sustained along with medically necessary restorative care for victims of domestic abuse.