

RESOLUTION 12.2021-12 (A-22)
CORONER'S FEES – ISMS HAS NO POLICY REGARDING FEES
CHARGED TO PHYSICIAN OF THE DECEASED PATIENT FOR
PROVIDING AUTOPSY REPORTS

ISMS Board Action Taken on 02/05/2022

Adopted Resolution 12.2021-12 (A-22), as amended by the Council on Medical Service.

Council on Medical Service Recommendation to ISMS Board on 02/05/2022

The Council heard from the resolution's author, who expressed strong support for the importance and clinical value of autopsy reports to a late patient's physician, and believes that being charged to obtain the reports is inconsistent with the general professional practice of sharing and exchanging medical records on a patient free of charge.

The Council agreed with the overall sentiments expressed by the author, and thinks there is merit to exploring options for waiving autopsy report fees for physicians. However, the Council suggested amending the language of the resolution so that it provides more flexibility to reach an agreement between all parties, rather than pursuing a strictly legislative strategy. Accordingly, the Council supports an amended resolution.

The Council on Medical Service recommends that the ISMS Board of Trustees adopt Resolution 12.2021-12 (A-22), as amended:

RESOLVED, that ISMS establish a policy that the physician of the deceased be exempted from ~~this coroner's fees for autopsy reports fee~~ under the above-stated Illinois law; and be it further

RESOLVED, that ISMS ~~introduce counter~~ consider legislation to exempt physicians from any fee for providing an autopsy report of the deceased under his or her care; and be it further

RESOLVED, that ISMS ~~establish~~ explore a policy of reciprocity where both parties can charge each other if no legislative change is possible in this matter.