

**(Board Action Affirmed; 2023 Annual Meeting)**  
**Board Adopted Resolution as Amended**  
**(October 2022)**

**ILLINOIS STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY**

**Resolution 09.2022-14**  
**(A-23)**

Introduced by: Nancy R.G. Church, MD, ISMS Member

Subject: Protecting Physicians and Healthcare Workers from Violence and Aggression

Referred to: Council on Education & Health Workforce

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RESOLVED, that ~~as a specific action~~, ISMS work with other key healthcare stakeholders affected by these issues to develop a white paper on violence and aggression against healthcare workers to provide information and guidance to physicians and healthcare professionals to assist in the development of such site-specific matters as protocols, procedures and mechanisms to ensure a safer and more secure environment. Such measures might include:

- Development of robust surveillance, data collection systems, and technologies and standards to track hate-based and other types of violence directed at physicians and healthcare workers by patients or community members.
- Security and safety response protocols to protect physicians and other healthcare workers to ensure their freedom from hate-based and other types of violence and intimidation.
- Solidarity-based strategies to mobilize individuals and organizations across the healthcare ecosystem, to name, confront, and effectively resist hate-based and other types of violence and intimidation. Such strategies could include the development of a “Physician and Healthcare Worker Bill of Rights,” creation of counseling and support services for survivors, and identification of punitive measures and related consequences for individuals engaging in aggressive or violent behaviors.