

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

ILLINOIS STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY

Resolution 09.2022-17
(A-23)

Introduced by: Barbara Jericho, MD, ISMS Member

Subject: Physician Medical Conditions and Questions on Applications for Medical Licensure, Specialty Boards, and Institutional Privileges

Referred to: Council on Education & Health Workforce

RESOLVED, that the ISMS delegation to the AMA submit a resolution to the AMA requesting that Policy H-275.970, *Licensure Confidentiality*, be amended as follows:

1. The AMA (a) encourages specialty boards, hospitals, and other organizations involved in credentialing and/or privileging, as well as state licensing boards, to take all necessary steps to assure the confidentiality of information contained on application forms for credentials; (b) encourages ~~boards~~ these entities to include in application forms only requests for information that can reasonably be related to medical practice; (c) encourages state licensing boards, specialty boards, hospitals and other organizations involved in credentialing and/or privileging to exclude from license application forms and associated application forms including credentialing/privileging application forms information that refers to psychoanalysis, counseling, or psychotherapy required or undertaken as part of medical training; (d) encourages state medical societies and specialty societies to join with the AMA in efforts to change statutes and regulations to provide needed confidentiality for information collected by licensing boards and related organizations; and (e) encourages state licensing boards, specialty boards, hospitals and other organizations involved in credentialing and/or privileging to require disclosure of physical or mental health conditions only when a physician is suffering from any condition that currently impairs his/her judgment or that would otherwise adversely affect his/her ability to practice medicine in a competent, ethical, and professional manner, or when the physician presents a public health danger.

2. Our AMA ~~will encourage~~ will verify that, by 2024, those state medical boards, specialty boards, hospitals, and other organizations involved in credentialing/privileging

that wish to retain questions about the health of applicants on medical licensing applications use language consistent with that recommended by the Federation of State Medical Boards, which reads, “Are you currently suffering from any condition for which you are not being appropriately treated that impairs your judgment or that would otherwise adversely affect your ability to practice medicine in a competent, ethical and professional manner? (Yes/No).”

3. Our AMA will work with the Federation of State Medical Boards, the American Hospital Association, the American Board of Medical Specialties, and state medical societies to develop policies and strategies to ensure that by 2024 all new and renewal medical licensure and associated applications and application reference forms, privileging, credentialing and related applications and documentation will request or disclose only information that is reasonably needed to address the applicant’s current fitness to practice medicine and respect the privacy of physician’s protected health information.