

SUBJECT: Electronic Health Record Documentation C-3/21
SUBMITTED BY: ACOFP Task Force on Physician Wellness
REFERRED TO: 2021 American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP) Congress of Delegates (*submitted in 2020*)

RESOLUTION NO. 11

- 1 WHEREAS, an American Medical Association 2017 Report states physician burnout across all
2 specialties is between 40 and 60%;¹ and
- 3 WHEREAS, a 2018 Medscape National Physician Burnout Survey stated 56% of participants identified
4 excessive bureaucratic tasks (charting, paperwork), 39 % identified spending excessive hours at work
5 and 24% identified increased computerization of practice (Electronic Health Records) as 3 of the 4
6 highest reasons for burnout;² and
- 7 WHEREAS, EHRs have failed as a tool to improve health care outcomes in the United States and have
8 not been able to achieve any of the quadruple aims (1. improve health outcomes 2. lower costs 3.
9 improve patient experience 4. improve physician satisfaction);^{3,4} and
- 10 WHEREAS, current EHRs disrupt the physician patient relationship by requiring physicians to spend
11 time clicking boxes and to alter their natural workflow, taking time away from direct patient
12 interaction; and
- 13 WHEREAS, the evolution of EHRs has failed to advance as rapidly as other computer software; and
- 14 WHEREAS, physicians believe technology exists that can produce an electronic health record system
15 which naturally integrates into the physician's workflow and does not intrude into the physician
16 patient relationship or require redundant data entry; now, therefore be it
- 17 RESOLVED, the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP) will work with the
18 Physicians' Electronic Health Record Coalition (PEHRC) to assertively call upon the Electronic Health
19 Record industry to accelerate the development and implementation of an Electronic Health Record
20 product or modifications which will facilitate the quadruple aim of health care (1. Improved health
21 outcomes 2. Lower health cost 3. Improved patient experience 4. Improved physician satisfaction); and
22 be it further
- 23 RESOLVED, that these improved EHRs shall integrate into the natural workflow of the physician and
24 *decrease* the physician's administrative and documentation burden; and be it further
- 25 RESOLVED, that ACOFP will include the goals in the two above resolves as part of its Principles of
26 Health Care Reform.⁵

FINAL ACTION: APPROVED as of March 10, 2021

References:

1. <https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/physician-health/report-reveals-severity-burnout-specialty>
2. <https://www.medscape.com/slideshow/2018-lifestyle-burnout-depression-6009235>
Replace with this: <https://www.medscape.com/slideshow/2019-lifestyle-burnout-depression-6011056>
3. <https://khn.org/news/death-by-a-thousand-clicks/>
4. <http://www.annfammed.org/content/12/6/573.full>
5. https://www.acofp.org/acofpimis/acofporg/PDFs/Advocacy/ACOFP_2018_Principles_of_Health_Care_System_Reform.pdf