

MEDIA ADVISORY
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 4, 2010

AMA MEETING TO SHAPE NATIONAL ADVOCACY AGENDA
Meeting Begins November 6 in San Diego

The nation's broadest democratic assembly of physicians will gather in San Diego this Saturday to shape the health care agenda of the American Medical Association, the country's largest physician organization.

The AMA's House of Delegates is the policy-making body at the center of American medicine, bringing together an inclusive group of physicians and medical students representing every state and medical specialty. Delegates will speak on behalf of their peers during a democratic forum that will create a national physician consensus on issues affecting the practice of medicine.

The AMA will also hold a news conference during the meeting on Monday, November 8 to discuss the need to halt a drastic Medicare payment cut before it goes into effect on December 1 and jeopardizes seniors' access to care. The AMA will announce new poll results for the first time illustrating public attitudes toward Congress' mismanagement of the Medicare program.

More than 100 policy proposals will be considered on emerging issues in science, ethics, government, public health and business. Physicians will vote on proposals to be incorporated into the AMA health care agenda.

Among the proposals and issues to be considered for the AMA's health care agenda include:

- Stopping Medicare cuts to preserve health care for seniors and baby boomers
- Protecting youth athletes from the health dangers of concussions
- Increasing health care coverage for children of military families
- Establishing ethical guidelines for the use of social media by physicians
- Advocating guiding principles for Accountable Care Organizations - collaborative health care initiatives to coordinate care, enhance quality and curb costs.

A highlight [summary](http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/meeting/index.shtml) of the AMA House of Delegates meeting is available that will provide an agenda, times, locations and other vital information for the press. A comprehensive list of policy proposals to be considered at the meeting can be viewed on the AMA Web site at: <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/meeting/index.shtml>

WHAT: Interim Meeting of the AMA House of Delegates

WHERE: San Diego Marriott Hotel and Marina
333 West Harbor Drive
San Diego, CA 92101

WHEN: Saturday, November 6, through Tuesday, November 9

CREDENTIALS: The AMA House of Delegates is open to credentialed members of the press. To arrange for press credentials, please contact AMA Media Relations at: (312) 464-4430.

INTERVIEWS: The AMA will have spokespeople available upon request to discuss the issues that have been voted on during the meeting. To schedule an interview, please contact the AMA Media Relations at: (312) 464-4430.

DAILY EVENTS: All events will take place at the San Diego Marriott Hotel and Marina. Times and room locations are subject to change. Please contact AMA Media Relations to receive updates.

Saturday, Nov. 6 **Opening Session of the AMA House of Delegates**
2:00 to 5:30 pm (PT) in Marriott Hall
The AMA's primary policy-making body convenes for its Interim Meeting.

Sunday, Nov. 7 **Committee Hearings**
8:30 am (PT) - please contact AMA Media Relations for specific times and room locations
Open hearings are convened to review and debate proposed policies.

Monday, Nov. 8 **AMA Medicare Meltdown News Conference**
9:30 am (PT) in Columbia 3
The AMA will highlight a new poll on public attitudes toward Congress' mismanagement of the Medicare program as physician payments are scheduled to be cut 25 percent by January 1. A call-in line is available for credentialed reporters. To register for the call-in, please contact AMA Media Relations at: (312) 464-4430.

Voting Session of the AMA House of Delegates
2:00 to 6:00 pm (PT) in Marriott Hall
Delegates convene for the first day of voting on proposed policies.

Tuesday, Nov. 9 **Voting Session of the AMA House of Delegates**
8:30 am to 12:00 pm (PT) in Marriott Hall
Delegates convene for the final day of voting on proposed policies.

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