

BOR Action on BOG Resolutions Now Available

A summary of Board of Regents actions on Board of Governors (BOG) resolutions debated at the November 2021 ACP Board of Regents (BOR) remote meeting is available below. Resolutions initiated by ACP members and endorsed by a chapter council and the BOG become ACP policy when adopted by the BOR.

If you have an idea you'd like to suggest to ACP, consider submitting a resolution to your Governor or local ACP chapter. Visit your [ACP chapter website](#) for more information on how to contact your Governor or chapter staff about proposing a resolution.

1 Board of Regents Actions Taken on BOG Resolutions, November 6-7, 2021, Remote Meeting

2 3 **Adopted and referred for implementation: (Lines 29 - 121)**

4 3-F20. Readdressing the Issue of Hospital Patient Status

5 4-F20. Advocating for Coverage of Mental Health Counselor and Marriage and Family Therapist Services
6 under Medicare

7 10-F20. Seeking Federal Protection for Those that Administer Vaccines

8 11-F20. Formalizing the Residency Program Closure Process and Preventing Hardships for Trainees

9 1-F21. Collaborating to Determine Optimal Ways to Incorporate Training in Physician Leadership and
10 Public Policy Advocacy into Internal Medicine Curricula

11 2-F21. Advocating for Inclusion of Antimicrobial Resistance and Stewardship Education in Medical
12 School Curriculum and Internal Medicine Residency

13 4-F21. Supporting a Policy to Avoid Conflicts of Interest for Physician Solicitation of Financial Contributions
14 from Patients

15 6-F21. Facilitating Research and Treatment of Individuals with Post-Acute Covid-19 Syndrome (PACS)

16 7-F21. Advocating for Pan Asian/Asian American Racial/Ethnicity Data Inclusion and Representation to
17 Promote Health Equity

18 9-F21. Providing Educational Material to Physicians on the Changes to the "Stark Law" as Announced
19 by CMS in November 2020

20 12-F21. Providing Support for Lactating Physicians

21 22 **Adopted as a substitute resolution and referred for implementation: (Lines 123 - 131; 134 - 158)**

23 5-F21. Addressing Concerns about Private Equity Firms and Their Effect on Medical Care
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25 The Board of Regents approved, as a Consent Calendar, the recommendations regarding the disposition
26 of each of the following 11 resolutions recommended for adoption at the Fall 2021 Board of Governors
27 Virtual Meeting:
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29 **BOG Recommends for Adoption/Implementation:**

30 ***4-F21. Supporting a Policy to Avoid Conflicts of Interest for Physician Solicitation of Financial***
31 ***Contributions from Patients***

32 ***(RRC Referral Recommendation: Ethics, Professionalism, and Human Rights Committee [EPHRC])***
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34 RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents support the creation of a policy, and more detailed guidance
35 in the ACP Ethics Manual, regarding physician involvement in fundraising from patients, which limits
36 any real or perceived conflict of interest with patient care including, but not limited, to a) prohibiting
37 physician financial incentives and b) ensuring that physician participation is voluntary and without
38 repercussions.

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7-F21. Advocating for Pan Asian/Asian American Racial/Ethnicity Data Inclusion and Representation to Promote Health Equity
(RRC Referral Recommendation: Health and Public Policy Committee [HPPC])

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents advocates, in collaboration with other stakeholders (including but not limited to the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine [NASEM], and other organized medicine societies), for the collection and inclusion of the Pan Asian/Asian American communities' disaggregated racial/ethnic data in health systems, health surveys, public health and medical studies, whenever such surveys and studies provide data on other communities of color. This advocacy can also include requests for major funders of scientific studies to set standards for data collection ensuring inclusion of Pan Asian/Asian American communities' disaggregated racial/ethnic data.

BOG Recommendations for Adoption/Implementation with Amendments:

3-F20. Readdressing the Issue of Hospital Patient Status
(RRC Referral Recommendation: Medical Practice and Quality Committee [MPQC] with input from Clinical Policy staff on the 2nd resolved clause)

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents advocates for support of decreased complexity of inpatient and observation status, and recommends a transparent, consistent reimbursement of appropriate care; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents advocates for the development of clinical standards for assigning inpatient and observation status that are based on best available evidence.

4-F20. Advocating for Coverage of Mental Health Counselor and Marriage and Family Therapist Services under Medicare
(RRC Referral Recommendation: MPQC)

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents advocates for the passage of federal regulation and/or legislation to mandate Medicare coverage of licensed mental health counselor and marriage and family therapist services.

10-F20. Seeking Federal Protection for Those that Administer Vaccines
(RRC Referral Recommendation: HPPC)

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents work with other medical, non-physician clinician, and public health organizations to seek federal protection for physicians, other clinicians, public health professionals, and associated team members who educate on, administer or distribute vaccines, which includes but is not limited to seeking similar legislation to the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act for vaccine providers.

11-F20. Formalizing the Residency Program Closure Process and Preventing Hardships for Trainees
(RRC Referral Recommendation: Education Committee [EC] with input from Health Policy staff)

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents work with the ACGME, CMS, and other relevant stakeholders to create a formal and transparent residency program closure process, delineating a hospital's responsibility to prevent hardships for trainees including, but not limited to, a reasonable amount of notice to trainees, attempts to relocate trainees prior to closure, allowing trainees to start work at their accepting institution at a reasonable time before the day of closing, and assistance in filing for visa extensions.

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**2-F21. Advocating for Inclusion of Antimicrobial Resistance and Stewardship Education in Medical School Curriculum and Internal Medicine Residency
(RRC Referral Recommendation: EC)**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents collaborate with the Association of American Medical Colleges, the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine, the Liaison Committee on Medical Education, the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, the Infectious Diseases Society of America, American College of Clinical Pharmacy, and other pertinent stakeholders, to continue to promote and advocate for education on antimicrobial resistance and stewardship as an enhanced component of the curriculum for medical students and internal medicine residents.

**6-F21. Facilitating Research and Treatment of Individuals with Post-Acute Covid-19 Syndrome (PACS)
(RRC Referral Recommendation: Division of Governmental Affairs and Public Policy [DGAPP] staff)**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents take the following actions to facilitate research and treatment of individuals with Post-Acute Covid-19 Syndrome (PACS):

1. Commend the NIH on its plan to fund comprehensive and coordinated basic research into the prolonged health consequences of SARS-Cov-2 infection, and strongly encourage the NIH to proceed as fast as is considered scientifically appropriate with the funding of well-designed treatment trials, including community-based sites, in light of the anticipated widespread amount of human suffering expected from this condition.

**9-F21. Providing Educational Material to Physicians on the Changes to the “Stark Law” as Announced by CMS in November 2020
(RRC Referral Recommendation: DGAPP staff with input from EC staff)**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents prepare educational material for ACP members which explain the changes in the Stark Law, as well as to provide examples of how these changes may enable ACP members to increase quality and comprehensiveness of care.

**12-F21. Providing Support for Lactating Physicians
(RRC Referral Recommendation: HPPC)**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents develop a position statement that highlights the importance of supporting physicians in achieving their breastfeeding goals, including encouraging hospitals and clinics to develop policies that provide private lactation spaces in close proximity of workspaces and equipped with a phone and computer to address productivity goals, and to offer physicians protected time for lactation without affecting income.

BOG Recommends for Adoption/Implementation as a Substitute Resolution:

**1-F21. Collaborating to Determine Optimal Ways to Incorporate Training in Physician Leadership and Public Policy Advocacy into Internal Medicine Curricula
(RRC Referral Recommendation: Council of Resident and Fellow Members [CRFM] with input from HPPC and EC)**

RESOLVED, that ACP collaborate with the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine and the Association of Program Directors in Internal Medicine to determine optimal ways to incorporate training in physician leadership and public policy advocacy into internal medicine curricula and that ACP uses its expertise to assist in developing this advocacy curriculum.

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134 **BOG Resolutions extracted from the Consent Calendar:**

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136 The Board of Regents extracted Resolution 5-F21 to discuss. Following discussion, the Board of Regents

137 ***VOTED:*** to approve the below substitute resolution and recommends referring to the HPPC for

138 implementation with input from Chapters Subcommittee.

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140 **5-F21. Addressing Concerns about Private Equity Firms and Their Effect on Medical Care**

141 RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents work actively on developing specific policies for
142 encouraging the collection of data on the scope of private equity group purchases of medical
143 entities, including but not limited to:

- 144 1. Contacting other relevant medical organizations such as the American Medical
145 Association and the American Academy of Family Physicians regarding ways to work
146 together to encourage collection of relevant data.
- 147 2. Asking national ACP to contact the membership using a methodology developed by
148 national ACP to better understand how the purchase of medical practices and
149 organizations by private equity groups affects our members, patient care, and healthcare
150 access, equity and costs.

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152 **Rationale:**

153 At their November 6, 2021 meeting, the Board of Regents (BOR) voted to amend Resolution 5-F21 and
154 refer it to HPPC for implementation with input from Chapters Subcommittee. The BOR reviewed the
155 Health and Public Policy Committee's policy around the financial motive in medicine and encroachment
156 of private equity firms and their subsequent effect on medical care. The BOR changed the collection of
157 data from chapters to national ACP citing uneven resources among Chapter to address the resolution
158 which could result in skewed data.