

Delegate and Alternate Delegate Report
AMA Annual Meeting
June 11-16, 2010

Delegate = David C Randolph, MD, MPH
Alternate Delegate = Douglas W Martin, MD

Your Delegate, Alternate Delegate, President and Executive Director attended the AMA Annual Meeting in Chicago June 11-16, 2010.

Dr. Randolph volunteered and served on Reference Committee D (Public Health).

Dr. Zipper, Dr. Martin, and Ms. Yost attended the Medical Student Showcase and exhibited on behalf of AADEP. We met many enthusiastic students, and there appeared to be much more interest in our activities from the student perspective than in prior years.

Significantly, the American Academy of Disability Evaluating Physicians was recommended by the Board of Trustees and Specialty Service Society for continued representation in the House of Delegates. This means that we will hold a House of Delegates seat until 2015 at which time we will undergo the 5-year review process again.

For your information, continued HOD membership for a Specialty Society can be accomplished in one of two ways: (1) by having 1000 or more AMA members or (2) by having at least 100 AMA members AND having 25% of its physician members who are eligible for AMA membership be AMA members.

AADEP statistics compiled by the AMA as of 5/3/2010 are:

Total eligible AADEP members = 890
Number of AMA members = 238 (27%)

The overriding theme of the Annual meeting, which should be of no surprise, was the reaction to and planning for the healthcare reform act. There can be no question that by supporting the legislation, the AMA lost a significant number of members (reported at somewhere between 5-10%, although for some state medical associations, there are reports that this is in actuality, much higher). A key focus for the AMA is either modification or amending the legislation to allow for items which were not contained in the bill which are long standing AMA advocacy policies such as tort reform and repeal of the SGR.

Resolutions that were of importance to AADEP include the Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs Report 1, which deals with financial relationships with industry in continuing medical education. The HOD voted to refer this report back to committee, which will be for the fourth year in a row. Obviously, this continues to be a contentious issue within the AMA.