

1
2
3 INTRODUCED BY: METRO OMAHA MEDICAL SOCIETY
4
5 SUBJECT: OPIOID EPIDEMIC
6

7 WHEREAS, the death rate from opioid overdose has quadrupled over the past 15
8 years in the USA, and
9

10 WHEREAS, 60% of the opioids that are abused are obtained directly or indirectly
11 through a physician prescription, and
12

13 WHEREAS, Nebraska State governmental leadership is presently acting to prevent
14 the spread of the US. Opioid epidemic into Nebraska, and
15

16 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Nebraska Medical Association form a
17 standing Opioid Abuse Committee which would:
18

- 19 1. Form liaisons with the Nebraska HHS and Nebraska Attorney General for
20 informational purposes, and
21
- 22 2. Monitor opioid abuse in Nebraska
23
- 24 3. Inform, advise, and educate the NMA membership of Nebraska opioid abuse
25 activity, and
26
- 27 4. Keep the NMA membership aware of Nebraska State law as well as proposed
28 related legislation, and
29
- 30 5. Work to increase awareness of efforts including Pain Guidance document,
31 Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) and Naloxone education.

1
2
3 INTRODUCED BY: METRO OMAHA MEDICAL SOCIETY
4
5 SUBJECT: DECREASING YOUTH SMOKING
6

7 WHEREAS, tobacco use is the largest preventable cause of disease and premature
8 death in the U.S.,
9

10 WHEREAS, 17% of Nebraskan adults and 13% of Nebraska youth have identified as
11 smokers, about half of youth smokers use two or more tobacco products
12

13 WHEREAS, youth use of tobacco products in any form is unsafe, irrespective of
14 whether it is smoked, smokeless, or electronic,
15

16 WHEREAS, youth are more sensitive to nicotine than adults and teens can feel
17 dependent on nicotine sooner than adults with genetic factors making quitting smoking
18 more difficult for young people, and youth who use multiple tobacco products are at
19 higher risk for developing nicotine dependence and might be more likely to continue using
20 tobacco into adulthood.
21

22 WHEREAS, tobacco use is started and established primarily during adolescence
23 with nearly 9 out of 10 cigarette smokers first tried smoking by age 18 and 99% first tried
24 smoking by age 26. Each day in the United States, more than 3200 youth age 18 years or
25 younger smoke their first cigarette and an additional 2100 youth and young adults
26 become daily cigarette smokers,
27

28 WHEREAS, if cigarette smoking continues at the current rate among youth in this
29 country, 5.6 million of today's Americans younger than 18 years old will die early from a
30 smoking related illness.
31

32 WHEREAS, from 2011 to 2016, current national rate of cigarette smoking declined
33 among middle and high school students. However, the use of electronic cigarettes and
34 hookahs increased. In Nebraska; however, the smoking rate which once was declining for
35 adults and youth has now plateaued for youth.
36

37 WHEREAS, tobacco-related illnesses account for approximately \$170 billion a year
38 in U.S. healthcare spending,
39

40 WHEREAS, research has demonstrated that significantly increasing the tobacco
41 tax is an effective strategy for reducing smoking especially for the youth and Nebraska
42 has not increased its tobacco tax for several years.
43

44 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Nebraska Medical Association support
45 legislative measures to increase the tobacco tax including electronic cigarettes to at least
46 \$1.50/pack or electronic equivalent in Nebraska.

1
2
3 INTRODUCED BY: METRO OMAHA MEDICAL SOCIETY

4
5 SUBJECT: CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM RE-
6 AUTHORIZATION

7
8 WHEREAS, the Children's Health Insurance Program provides insurance for
9 children with family incomes below 200% of the federal poverty line who are not insured,
10 which currently accounts for 30% of Nebraska children.

11
12 WHEREAS, regular health screenings and immunizations create the foundation for
13 adult health, success in learning

14
15 WHEREAS, funding for this program is set to expire September 30, 2017

16
17 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Nebraska Medical Association urge
18 Nebraska's congressional delegation to re-authorize the Children's Health Insurance
19 Program.

1
2
3 INTRODUCED BY: METRO OMAHA MEDICAL SOCIETY

4
5 SUBJECT: PROTECTING CONTINUITY OF CARE
6

7 WHEREAS, evidence indicates patients are more satisfied when they see the same
8 doctor;

9
10 WHEREAS, the physician-patient relationship allows for continuity of information,
11 consistent health management, and effective advocacy that is the foundation of a
12 medical home;

13
14 WHEREAS, in the current environment there are changes in health systems and
15 practices that can be disruptive to that model in providing continuity of access and care;

16
17 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Nebraska Medical Association supports
18 hospital and medical organizations allowing patients to be notified of new office
19 information when physicians change practices.