MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Resolution: 2017 - 255

Introduced By: Richmond County Medical Society
Subject: Office Based Surgery Reimbursement
Referred to: Reference Committee on Socio-Medical Economics

Whereas, Office Based Surgery (OBS) policy mandates accreditation and sometimes cost-prohibitive expenses relative to procedures, high-value supplies and overhead; and

Whereas, since the implementation of OBS in 2007, studies show that OBS facilities operate with higher safety ratings than Ambulatory Surgery Centers and Hospitals, both of which are reimbursed facility fees; and

Whereas, OBS facilities do not receive reimbursements, but are nevertheless charged a prohibitive cost to maintain their accreditation; and

Whereas, the building of OBS facilities to specification necessitates near-cost prohibitive expense; and

Whereas, OBS facilities were denied reimbursement for facility fees for non-licensure, though OBS facilities were not required to be licensed; and

Whereas, OBS operations provide Ambulatory Surgery Centers and Hospitals in-kind cost savings through accepting minor cases requiring minimal procedure; and these are cases on which hospital and ambulatory surgery centers will lose money and recognizing that the resources could be better utilized in more complicated cases; and

Whereas, OBS practices provide patients high quality and high-touch continuity of care in familiar settings that provide value-added behavioral health outcomes with minimized staff resources; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that payment for office based surgery (OBS) facility fees be made retroactive to 3 years from the last case performed by the practitioner at the OBS Facility and that the reimbursement be at least 50% of the reimbursement made to the hospital facility for a similar procedure—both retroactively as well as going forward; and be it further

RESOLVED, that based on long term past inequities in payments for facility reimbursement fees between the hospital, ambulatory surgery centers and office based surgery by the insurance providers, we call for action by the Medical Society of the State of New York to establish legislative priorities based on this resolution that can inform state legislators to enact into law said resolution.