

**MSSNY's Meeting Minutes for the
Committee on Health Insurance**

The Committee on Health Insurance met on Tuesday evening, May 9, 2017.

Members Present: Andrew J. Merritt, MD, Chair
Thomas T. Lee, MD
Maria LoTempio, MD
Daniel J. Nicoll, MD
Robert Ostrander, MD

Guest: Richard Schoor, MD, Suffolk County Medical Society and
Author of Resolution 2017-59

MSSNY Staff: Regina McNally, VP, Socio-Medical Economics

The meeting of the MSSNY Committee on Health Insurance was called to order by the Chair at 7:30 PM. The purpose of the meeting was to make a recommendation for the Council referred Resolution 2017-59.

Resolution 59 reads, **MSSNY Statement on Increased Health Insurance Deductibles**

RESOLVED, That due to the dramatically increasing patient cost-sharing responsibilities, often resulting in patients decisions to delay or forego medically necessary services, that the Medical Society of the State of New York issue an official policy statement that any deductibles in excess of \$500 represents an unacceptable patient burden and barrier to achieving health care for the majority of New York citizens; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a similar resolution be introduced at the June AMA House of Delegates, calling for the AMA to issue a similar policy statement on a national level.

The Committee had a full and in depth discussion, considered the comments of Reference Committee, Governmental Affairs A from MSSNY's Annual meeting and the complexities of the Resolution. The issues mentioned during the discussion were costs, self-insured and ERISA plans, patients wanting a higher deductible for a lesser monthly premium and patient access. Based on the discussion, the Committee on Health Insurance recommends the following **Substitute Resolution, as MSSNY's position statement, in lieu of Resolution 59:**

RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLVED, that the Medical Society of the State of New York supports health insurance coverage that is affordable and usable for patients in terms of premium, deductible, coinsurance and/or copayment.

(For Council Approval)

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew J. Merritt, MD, Chair