

April 2016
Affirmation Resolution of State Pathology Societies
Re: Repeal of N.Y. Prohibition on Patient-Pathologist Consultation

Whereas: The State of New York currently has a regulation that forbids pathologists from answering patient questions regarding their laboratory and pathology test results;

Whereas: Pathologists as physicians have a legal and ethical duty to their patients, which is the same as every other physician medical specialty;

Whereas: To our knowledge, no other State in the United States has any such legal or regulatory restriction on pathologists that limits our ability to answer patient questions;

Whereas: Pathologists in every other State in the United States are able to fully exercise our medical discretion in answering patient questions, without the dictate or constraint of state regulation, and conferring with patients based upon our medical judgment as physicians;

Whereas: The New York regulation represents an unwarranted and deleterious intrusion into the physician practice of medicine by pathologists to the detriment of quality, patient care and patient empowerment in understanding their diagnosis;

Therefore, Be It Resolved: That we the undersigned State Pathology Societies affirm this declaration, and unanimously call upon the State of New York to repeal the regulation that prohibits pathologists from conferring with patients.

Alabama Society of Pathologists
Arizona Society of Pathologists
Arkansas Society of Pathologists
Alaska Society of Pathologists
California Society of Pathologists
Connecticut Society of Pathologists
Colorado Society of Pathologists
Delaware Society of Pathologists
Florida Society of Pathologists
Georgia Society of Pathologists
Hawaii Society of Pathologists
Idaho Society of Pathologists
Illinois Society of Pathologists
Iowa Association of Pathologists
Kansas Society of Pathologists
Kentucky Society of Pathologists
Louisiana Society of Pathologists
Maryland Society of Pathologists
Massachusetts Society of Pathologists
Michigan Society of Pathologists

Minnesota Society of Pathologists
Mississippi Society of Pathologists
Missouri Society of Pathologists
Montana Society of Pathologists
Nebraska Society of Pathologists
New Hampshire Society of Pathologists
New Jersey Society of Pathologists
New Mexico Society of Pathologists
Nevada Society of Pathologists
North Carolina Society of Pathologists
Ohio Society of Pathologists
Pennsylvania Association of Pathologists
Rhode Island Society of Pathologists
South Carolina Society of Pathologists
South Dakota Society of Pathologists
Tennessee Society of Pathologists
Texas Society of Pathologists
Utah Society of Pathologists
Vermont State Pathology Society
Virginia Society of Pathologists
Washington State Society of Pathologists
West Virginia Society of Pathologists
Wisconsin Society of Pathologists
Wyoming Society of Pathologists