

1 VERMONT MEDICAL SOCIETY
2 RESOLUTION

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4 *Adopted on October 14, 2006*

5
6 **Implementing Electronic Medical Records**

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9 Whereas, A national effort is being made to encourage physicians to add electronic medical records
10 (EMR) to their offices within ten years; and

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12 Whereas, this effort is based on the experience that electronic medical records and the secure exchange
13 of medical information will help to improve health care quality, prevent medical errors, and improve
14 administrative efficiencies; and

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16 Whereas, Physicians are already struggling with the cost of practicing medicine with spiraling liability
17 costs and low reimbursement rates; and

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19 Whereas, Converting from the current paper system to electronic medical records will place additional
20 financial and administrative burdens on physician practices that may not have the resources necessary to
21 implement EMRs at the present time; and

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23 Whereas, Most payers have not provided additional physician revenue to offset implementation costs of
24 EMRs or comparable electronic information technology; therefore be it

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26 **RESOLVED, That the Vermont Medical Society (VMS) advocate for initiatives to use electronic**
27 **medical records; and be it further**

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29 **RESOLVED, That the VMS continue its active involvement in efforts to define and promote**
30 **standards that will facilitate the efficacy and interoperability of health information technology**
31 **systems; and be it further**

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33 **RESOLVED, That it be the policy of the VMS that public and private insurers should not**
34 **require the use of electronic medical records until national uniform standards for**
35 **interoperability are established and adequate financial resources are made available to assist**
36 **physician practices in obtaining and maintaining new technologies.**