



[Resources](#) » [Medical Ethics](#) » [AMA Code of Medical Ethics](#) » [Opinion 4.07](#)

---

## Opinion 4.07 - Staff Privileges

The mutual objective of both the governing board and the medical staff is to improve the quality and efficiency of patient care in the hospital. Decisions regarding hospital privileges should be based upon the training, experience, and demonstrated competence of candidates, taking into consideration the availability of facilities and the overall medical needs of the community, the hospital, and especially patients. Privileges should not be based on numbers of patients admitted to the facility or the economic or insurance status of the patient. Personal friendships, antagonisms, jurisdictional disputes, or fear of competition should not play a role in making these decisions. Physicians who are involved in the granting, denying, or termination of hospital privileges have an ethical responsibility to be guided primarily by concern for the welfare and best interests of patients in discharging this responsibility. (IV, VI, VII)

Issued July 1983; Updated June 1994

---

Copyright 1995-2014 [American Medical Association](#) All rights reserved.

[Contact Us](#) | [Advertise with Us](#) | [Terms of Use](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Code of Conduct](#) | [Sitemap](#)