

What Does Advocacy Mean to You: One Question Results from March 28, 2008

- 1 Promotion and protection for the survival of our specialty--promotion and protection of the public health through the achievement of Board Certification in Reconstructive Surgery of the Upper Limb.
- 2 Representation of the ideals and interests of a group--not only the opinion of the majority, but also important factions within the larger group.
- 3 Advocacy is the act of promoting information and beliefs from one group of people to another.
- 4 Promote interests of our specialty through government liaison, lobbying, and education.
- 5 Providing an organized and powerful voice for member concerns in the political/policy arena. By virtue of its inherent legitimacy, the ASSH gives a powerful presence on the national level.
- 6 Giving support for the interests of a group, whether in the political (national, state and local) or insurance realm (reimbursements, etc.).
- 7 taking our responsibility for our patients to the next level
- 8 In regards to ASSH: Speaking on behalf of the ASSH membership to all other agencies, acting to promote the best interest of the members
- 9 promoting hand surgery as a specialty, making issues that are specific to hand surgeons know to the parent organizations
- 10 The ASSH being politically active in a way that protects each member's rights, career, and value to society.
- 11 It is an organised approach by a group of professionals to further their voices, on issues that directly affect them, by gaining access to political and governmental organisations, articulating our positions and motivating them to act in our best interest
- 12 Pushing an issue in the political arena
- 13 As had been said:"The trip around the world start with rhe first step". We must start it, even if it looks to be impossible.
- 14 Helping members identify inconsistencies, inaccuracies, and unfairness in governmental regulations and private insurances and working through the system to try and improve the practice of hand surgery for the hand surgeon.
- 15 representation of an idea
- 16 using the power of the collective to preserve, protect and defend our interests- politically first, and ultimately professionally and financially.
- 17 Representing the interests of Hand Surgeons and our patients at the national level.
- 18 protecting fee schedules

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- 19 Advocating for members to maximize fair reimbursement, to decrease the ability for malpractice claims to occur by supporting legal/political measures in this direction, and supporting legal/political measures that forces members to take call that is not reimbursed and overzealous. Advocacy is supporting legal/political measures that improve the lifestyles of its members which allows the members to be more happy/productive in their work. Basically, it is fighting against many government institutions that are opposed to making it easier for physicians to practice medicine.
 - 20 Communicating your opinions/wishes/desires to your political representatives. supporting your political friends financially and otherwise.
 - 21 Advocacy is to support of to urge others to support. Bill Eversmann
 - 22 Advocacy for the ASSH should consist of assessing the position of the membership on relevant issues, then presenting those findings to the appropriate government representatives in order to make them aware of our views. Carl B. Weiss, M.D.
 - 23 Advocacy is far reaching. It includes federal and state legislative activity, CPT coding updates, increased reimbursement, medical liability reform, office based surgery regulations concerning what can be done in free standing facilities, who can do those procedures, what type of monitoring is required, what type of safety equipment and protocols are required, transfer arrangements, scope of practice, ASC licensure and CON requirements, and collaboration with other medical specialty societies and with nonmedical partners. There is certainly more I could add, but that is certainly a broad overview.
 - 24 Supporting the political agendas that are in the best interests of our patients and our profession
 - 25 Advocacy is supporting and enabling the goals of the ASSH members in their efforts to improve and advance patient care. This could be in the form of medical technology, medical administration, tort reform, basic science discoveries, etc.
 - 26 Providing support and education at the public and legislative level to promote a group's viewpoint/goals.
 - 27 representing those who do what we do specifically. When done generally (ortho or ama)we are always compromised.
 - 28 someone who acts on behalf of someone else's best interests
 - 29 Involvement in education and promotion of our practice for patient advocacy
 - 30 Lobbying legislatively, and informing publicly, of the importance of hand surgery, hand injury prevention, our profession's needs, a free-market approach to medicine sans the government's intervention.
 - 31 watching legislation supporting general awareness of hand surgery
 - 32 speaking out on issues that you support or oppose-letting your opinion be heard
 - 33 promote a cause
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- 34** In this context, advocacy means representing our own professional interests in order to maintain and improve our opportunities.
- 35** I do not know
- 36** trying to achieve financial stability in medicine
- 37** Political influence
- 38** advocacy is representation of a group to protect and promote it's values
- 39** Advancing opinions of members with regard to national policy initiatives (ie ER call coverage, reimbursement, access to care, tort reform, industry partnerships), along with lending advice to members with regard to decision-making or negotiations with carriers or providers.
- 40** The act of representing the particular interests of an organization, a person, a social group, and to argue on his/hers/its behalf in front of political, legal, or social entities.
- 41** Promoting and supporting issues that affect the group being represented
- 42** Actively taking a position on an issue and being involved in communicating the position to those in the decision making process.
- 43** Advocacy is a panel of ASSH members that could pursue regional or global issues regarding care of patients with disorders of the upper extremity. Medicare reimbursement, RBRVS, CPT coding, PFP, EMR, Malpractice Reform, EMTALA, ED Call, Pay for Call are some examples of "hot issues".
- 44** Advancing the political, economic, educational and patient care interesstes of hand surgeons from multiple backgrounds.
- 45** ad voco Latin: speak or call to or for to speak for the rights or desires of self or others
- 46** Support for the needs of individuals, in this case through representation at state and gov't levels for reimbursement issues, dealing with call issues,...
- 47** The opportunity to have "quality time" to present some of the unique challenges that hand surgeons face in this day and age to the "movers and shakers" of the political and business arenas.
- 48** lobbying for economic interests
- 49** lobbying for something with appropriate legislators
- 50** advocacy is the act of speaking or lending support for a concept or idea on behalf of a person or group

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51 where the assn represents hand surgeons as a whole to promote change whether it be political or monetary

52 Very important but the ASSH and our patients are flies on the wall when you look at the big picture. Advocacy is more appropriate for the ACS, AMA, and possibly the AAOS.
