

2019 LGBTQ Annual Meeting highlights

The Advisory Committee on LGBTQ Issues hosted its LGBTQ and Allies Caucus and Reception on Friday, June 7.

Educational session

The program began with an educational session, “PrEP to End HIV by 2030,” featuring Dr. Maya Green, MD, who is a site medical director for Chicago’s Howard Brown Health. Dr. Green described effective strategies to expand access to PrEP and identified the impact of PrEP to eliminate HIV by 2030.

The program also featured keynote speaker Mathew Shurka, co-founder and chief strategist of Born Perfect, Inc. Mr. Shurka shared his personal experiences with—and advocacy to end—LGBTQ change efforts (also known as “conversion therapy”). To date, 18 states have banned LGBTQ change efforts.

U.S. Surgeon General Jerome Adams, MD, also delivered remarks regarding health equity and recent efforts in the Department of Health and Human Services to eliminate disparities in the HIV epidemic.

Panel

On Saturday, June 8, the advisory committee hosted “Differences in Sex Development: Clinical and Ethical Implications for Providers, Patients, and Parents.”

Moderated by advisory committee chair, Shilpen Patel, MD, the panel:

- Discussed the medical conditions encompassed within the differences in sex development umbrella.
- Articulated the relevancy of DSD medical-ethical topics within sex and gender minority health.

- Described the ethical considerations when determining appropriate care for DSD patients based on the current data landscape.

Panelists included:

- Earl Cheng, MD, a pediatric urologist at Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago.
- Katharine Dalke, MD MBE, a psychiatrist at Penn State University.
- Kathryn Moseley, MD, MPH, a bioethicist, pediatrician, neonatologist at University of Michigan Medical School and vice chair of the AMA's Council on Ethics and Judicial Affairs.
- Julie Greenberg, JD, professor emeritus with Thomas Jefferson School of Law.

Elections

The Advisory Committee on LGBTQ Issues elected officers for 2019-2020.

Shilpen Patel, MD, was reelected as chair for a second term. Dr. Patel is a radiation oncologist who has an adjunct appointment as an associate professor in the University of Washington Department of Global Health, as well as an affiliate appointment in the Division of Public Health at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. He is actively involved in cancer clinical care, education and research and has served as principal investigator on local and national clinical trials.

He attended medical school at the University of Texas and trained at the Greenebaum Cancer Center at the University of Maryland for his residency.

Magda Houlberg, MD, was elected vice chair. Dr. Houlberg is the chief clinical officer for Howard Brown Health (HBH) in Chicago. She initially joined the HBH staff in 2008 as its director of Geriatric Medicine. Her medical practice focus includes LGBTQ aging, HIV medicine, health promotion and interdisciplinary medical care for populations at risk. She has been the driving force behind the expansion of HBHC's medical and social services for older LGBTQ adults, especially those aging with HIV.

An Internal medicine physician and geriatrician, Dr. Houlberg earned her medical degree from Rush University Medical College, where she also completed a residency in internal medicine. She completed a fellowship and served as an assistant professor in geriatric medicine section at Rush University Medical Center.