YPS members and news highlights

The YPS is the voice of young physicians concerned about issues affecting their practice and their patients. Members work to influence policy and advocacy, and address various issues including health equity, work/life balance, income/reimbursement and administrative burdens.

A note from YPS and IMGS

October 2021

From YPS Chair Laura Faye Gephart, MD, MBA

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The third week of October is International Medical Graduate (IMG) Recognition Week. We celebrate the intersectionality of the YPS and IMG sections this month with Kamalika Roy, MD and Ricardo Correa, MD. As chair and chair-elect of the IMG section, Drs. Roy and Correa and the rest of the IMG Governing Council are focused on the impact of implicit bias on the physician and the practice of medicine—a focus the YPS shares in its upcoming November 2021 educational programming.
International medical graduates represent 25% of the physicians practicing in the United States and 75% of physicians practicing in rural communities. A critical component of the physician workforce, IMGs are grossly underrepresented in leadership throughout medicine, which our IMG Section works diligently to correct.

**Discrimination processes affecting IMGs’**

Kamalika Roy, MD

**From Drs. Roy and Correa:**

IMGs struggle with multiple issues in their careers from matching as a resident to finding the ideal job and advancing their careers. There are several systemic discrimination processes affecting IMGs’ careers and personal lives. This systemic discrimination goes from employers trying to take advantage of the physicians’ situation to not obtaining leadership positions in different organizations, or not being eligible to apply for research grants. While awareness of structural inequity is increasing overall, discrimination against IMGs is minimally recognized.
In the past few months, our section developed a survey exploring the specific nature of biases against IMGs and their effect on the well-being of IMGs. We are working together with the AMA’s Center for Health Equity office to highlight IMGs as underrepresented in graduate medical education.

Many of our IMGs are active members of this amazing Young Physicians Section and some of them have occupied leadership positions. As an IMG and YPS, we need to collaborate to achieve our shared goals and find solutions.

Together we are stronger
Juntos somos mas poderosos

**Upcoming IMG and YPS education events**

**Wednesday, Oct. 20—7 p.m. Central**

**An Observership Experience:** Examine virtual and in-person rotations, updates to the USMLE, review 2021 Residency Match data and discuss the impact IMGs have on U.S. health care. Visit the IMG Facebook page for more on this event.

**Thursday, Oct. 21—7 p.m. Central**
Residents Moving Medicine During the Pandemic: Hear from IMGs who are currently completing their residency and fellowship programs in the U.S. Learn about their journey, how they have overcome obstacles and continue to provided patient care throughout the pandemic. Register now.

Friday, Nov. 12—Noon-1 p.m. Central

Structural Inequities in Medicine: Impacts on the Person and Profession: The YPS will be hosting this program during its November meeting to examine the issue of structural inequities in medicine. Panelists will explore how systems of power have impacted their training and medical careers. In addition, the program will identify resources from the AMA’s Center for Health Equity that can help address the drivers of health inequity. Information on how to access the session will be posted once available.

Contact us

Have information about YPS members doing great work? Email us at yps@ama-assn.org.