



## **Young Physicians Section Delegate's Report from the 2013 Interim Meeting**

The Young Physicians Section (YPS) of the AMA was again an active part of the AMA House of Delegates (HOD) meeting in National Harbor, Maryland. The preliminary handbook review committee recommendations were made available to members of the YPS assembly prior to the meeting. This process affords each YPS assembly member an opportunity to review each resolution prior to coming to the Assembly. Our vigorous debate on these issues is key to developing the YPS position on each resolution and report. Testimony on behalf of the YPS was offered in several HOD reference committees based on the Assembly's direction to actively support or actively oppose relevant reports and resolutions. Our team approach allows more young physicians to speak on behalf of the YPS in their state and specialty caucuses, as well as in HOD reference committees. An action document with talking points for all YPS active positions was created for members to use throughout the meeting. Without the assistance of members of the assembly, the delegate and alternate delegate would have been unable to speak to all of these items as well as other resolutions deemed relevant to the section.

The YPS considered three resolutions:

- *Resolution 1: Putting Price Transparency Into Practice*

Resolution 1 asks the AMA to study appropriate mechanisms for obtaining price data from providers, facilities, insurers and other health care entities prior to the provision of non-emergent services and barriers to this goal. Further, this resolution asks the AMA to support medical education efforts to enhance cost transparency with a focus on the cost of the tests providers order, as well the cost of durable medical equipment and facility fees. Finally, this resolution asks the AMA to provide regular updates to its membership on the path toward enhancing the transparency of cost within the U.S. health care system for both providers and consumers, and how the AMA can be the leading voice in this effort. This resolution will be brought forward to the HOD for deliberation during the 2014 Annual Meeting.

- *Resolution 2: Medical Malpractice Rate Discounts*

Resolution 2 asks the AMA to encourage member organizations of the Federation to offer access to discounted medical liability insurance premiums. This resolution will be brought forward to the HOD for deliberation during the 2014 Annual Meeting.

- *Resolution 3: Examining the Changing Nature of U.S. Medical Residencies*

Resolution 3 asks the AMA to continue to study the effect of ever increasing match participants and the stagnant growth of U.S. residency positions with a report back at 2014 Annual Meeting. Resolution 3 was brought forward to the HOD for deliberation during the 2013 Interim Meeting. It was subsequently adopted by the HOD.

The final actions of the YPS items of business may be found in the enclosed document.

As directed by the YPS Assembly, the section also testified on several other important items of business, including: CEJA Report 4: Ethically Sound Innovation in Medical Practice (active refer back to CEJA); Resolution 5: Opposition to Restrictions on Physician/Patient Free Speech (active support); Resolution 206: FDA to Extend Regulatory Jurisdiction Over All Non-Pharmaceutical Tobacco Products (active support); Resolution 812: Health Exchange Benefit Designs and Tax Deductibility of Out-of-Pocket Expenses (active support); CSAPH Report 1: Inclusion of Supplement Purchases in Nutritional Assistance Programs (Resolution 905-I-12) (active support with amendment to add second recommendation); and Resolution 904: Evaluation of Standardized Clinical Skills Exams (active support).

Final actions on each of these can be found on the AMA HOD website at: <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/meeting/reports-resolutions-listing.shtml>.

For future meetings, I would like to personally encourage everyone to stay for as much of the HOD meeting as possible. Your testimony and influence in your states, specialty societies, caucuses, sections, and councils are an essential part of achieving our objectives in the HOD, multiplying the voice of young physicians in our AMA. By staying for the HOD, you play an integral part in making sure young physicians' needs are heard and considered in every decision the AMA makes.

In addition, I would like to thank everyone for participating in the HOD handbook review process, particularly if you participated in a handbook review committee. This important process lays the groundwork for our positions and makes sure that every issue is looked at for YPS relevance. I hope that everyone will consider volunteering some of your valuable time to this important YPS function. Most importantly, our positions as a Section are an important part of ensuring that AMA policy remains relevant for young physicians.

If you have any questions as to the actions of the YPS, please do not hesitate to contact me ([ypsdelegate@gmail.com](mailto:ypsdelegate@gmail.com)) to find out more. We also hope that after reading this report, you will be inspired to write your own resolutions for consideration at future meetings.

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