AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution: 958
(I-17)

Introduced by: Michigan

Subject: Sex and Gender Based Medicine in Clinical Medical Education

Referred to: Reference Committee K
(L. Samuel Wann, MD, Chair)

Whereas, The cellular biology, gene expression, and hormonal profile differs between sexes and genders, and influence the clinical presentation, progression, and outcome for a variety of diseases; and

Whereas, The Institute of Medicine supports the advent and implementation of sex and gender based medicine in daily practice of patient care due to its multifactorial impact on overall patient health and disease prognosis; and

Whereas, Sex and gender based medical education is a critical component in the pursuit of more personalized medicine; and

Whereas, The majority of current educational materials used in medical education have a gender-bias toward male patients, and educators must make the conscious decision to offer learning materials and teaching that is sex and gender based; and

Whereas, There are demonstrated sex and gender differences in drug responses to therapeutic doses due to variations in gene expression leading to increases in adverse effects disproportionately in the female sex; and

Whereas, Sex and gender-based medicine (SGBM) may not currently be addressed in undergraduate or graduate medical education, and medical students and residents may not fully understand the impact of these differences on patient care; and

Whereas, A recent study shows 96 percent of medical students are aware of differences in SGBM, and 94.2 percent believe including it in the curriculum improves their ability to care for future patients; and

Whereas, Some schools have already adapted their curriculum to include SGBM through integration into existing educational resources, including clinical cases and learning modules; and

Whereas, Over twenty national and international organizations and schools are already addressing sex and gender implications in medical education and continuing medical education curricula; and

Whereas, The American Medical Association (AMA) has recently expanded the definition of women’s health to be inclusive of all health conditions for which there is evidence that women’s risks, presentations, and/or responses to treatment are different from those of men, and encouraged physicians to use this in their training; and
Whereas, The AMA has previously resolved to encourage the research of sex and gender differences in medicine, and recommends that medical/scientific journals require sex based analysis of data when appropriate; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association ask the AMA Council on Medical Education and Academic Physician Section to encourage the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, Liaison Committee on Medical Education, Commission on Osteopathic Accreditation, Association of American Medical Colleges, and Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to assure the inclusion of sex and gender based medicine in medical education programs across the spectrum of learners nationwide. (Directive to Take Action)

Fiscal Note: Not yet determined

Received: 09/29/17

RELEVANT AMA POLICY

An Expanded Definition of Women's Health H-525.976, Our AMA recognizes the term "women's health" as inclusive of all health conditions for which there is evidence that women's risks, presentations, and/or responses to treatments are different from those of men, and encourages that evidence-based information regarding the impact of sex and gender be incorporated into medical practice, research, and training. Citation: CSAPH Rep. 05, A-16;

See also: Medical Education and Training in Women's Health H-295.890, Sex and Gender Differences in Medical Research H-525.988

4 Pinn VW. Sex and Gender Factors in Medical Studies: Implications for Health and Clinical Practice. JAMA. 2003;289(4):397-400.
9 Jenkins, Marjorie R., Richard Dickerson, Michael Song, Chwan-Li Shen, Susan Bergeson, Betsy Jones, Simon Williams, Robert Casanova, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Medicine, and Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health. Direct Connection of Foundational Science Principles to Clinical Care. Texas Tech Sex and Gender-Based Medicine Longitudinal Curriculum Model. N.p., n.d. Web.
11 Sex and Gender Women's Health Collaborative – Collaborators (http://sgwhc.org/participate/collaborators/#tsshhash.kbSvcku.dpbs)