Hyatt Regency Chicago
Chicago, Illinois
June 8-9, 2018

Ending Gun Violence

The AMA Minority Affairs Section (MAS) held its business meeting on Friday June 8.

The keynote speech, “Gun Violence in America – A Public Health Crisis” was delivered by Joseph Sakran, MD, MPH, MPA. Dr. Sakran is an assistant professor of surgery, director of emergency general surgery and associate chief in the Division of Acute Care Surgery at the Johns Hopkins Hospital.

As a victim of gun violence and a surgeon, Dr. Sakran discussed his work as a clinician, researcher and advocate with a primary goal of reducing firearm death and disability in America. He recently founded the organization, Docs Demand Action, a platform to help unite healthcare providers and provide one strong voice in ending gun violence.

BP Control in Minority Communities

LaMar Hasbrouck, MD, MPH discussed a new AMA initiative to help with blood pressure control among African-American men. Dionne Hart, MD, the MAS delegate, discussed pending resolutions and reports before the House of Delegates that may have implications in minority health policy. As part of the section’s strategic planning efforts, two new committees will focus on minority health policy and workforce diversity.

Encouraging Tomorrow’s Physicians

Members of the MAS Governing Council and the Medical Student Section Minority Issues Committee visited Lindblom Math and Science Academy, a public school in Chicago’s Englewood community, to encourage students to consider medicine as a career.

MAS Announces New Officers


- Tyeese Gaines, DO, an emergency medicine physician and at-large member, was elected chair
- Siobahn Wescott, MD, MPH, who serves as the Association of American Indian Physicians Representative, was elected vice-chair.