Women Physicians Section
2018 Annual Meeting Delegate's Report

The AMA Women Physicians Section (WPS) was an integral part of the AMA House of Delegates (HOD) meeting in Chicago. The WPS authored three resolutions that were considered by the HOD during the 2018 Annual Meeting:

- Resolution 007: Oppose the Criminalization of Self-Induced Abortion
- Resolution 008: Health Care Rights of Pregnant Minors
- Resolution 417: Reducing Disparities in Obstetric Outcomes, Maternal Morbidity, and Prenatal Care

The WPS also testified on several important items of business. The WPS position is listed parenthetically and the final action taken by the AMA HOD in bold.

Reference Committee on Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws
- Resolution 007: Oppose the Criminalization of Self-Induced Abortion (Active Support, Adopted)
- Resolution 008: Health Care Rights of Pregnant Minors (Active Support, Adopted as Amended)
- Resolution 010: Gender Equity in Compensation and Professional Advancement (Active Support, Substitute Resolution, “Advancing Gender Equity in Medicine” adopted in lieu of Resolutions 010, 011, 020 and 021)
- Resolution 011: Women Physician Workforce and Gender Gap in Earnings-Measures to Improve Equality (Active Support, Substitute Resolution, “Advancing Gender Equity in Medicine” adopted in lieu of Resolutions 010, 011, 020 and 021)
- Resolution 020: Taking Steps to Advance Gender Equity in Medicine (Active Support, Substitute Resolution, “Advancing Gender Equity in Medicine” adopted in lieu of Resolutions 010, 011, 020 and 021)
- Resolution 021: Advancing the Goal of Equal Pay for Women in Medicine (Active Support, Substitute Resolution, “Advancing Gender Equity in Medicine” adopted in lieu of Resolutions 010, 011, 020 and 021)

Reference Committee A (Medical Service)
- CMS Report 2: Improving Affordability in the Health Insurance Exchanges Items for Discussion (Active Support, Adopted)
- CMS Report 7: Insulin Affordability (Resolution 826-I-17) (Active Support, Adopted as Amended)
- Resolution 110: Return to Prudent Layperson Standard for Emergency Services (Active Support, Existing Policy Reaffirmed)

Reference Committee B (Legislation)
- Resolution 201: Removing Barriers to Obesity Treatment (Active Support, Adopted as Amended)
- Resolution 203: Updating Federal Food Policy to Improve Nutrition and Health (Active Support, Resolution 203 adopted with amendment to the third Resolve to read: “RESOLVED, that our AMA recommend that the U.S. Department of Agriculture and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services clearly indicate in the Dietary Guidelines for Americans and other federal nutrition guidelines that meat and dairy products are option, rather than recommended or required based on an individual’s dietary needs.”)
- Resolution 209: Substance Use Disorders During Pregnancy (Active Support, Adopted as Amended)
- Resolution 210: Banning the Sale of Bump Stocks (Active Support, Existing Policy Reaffirmed)
- Resolution 214: Strengthening the Background Check System for Firearm Sales (Active Support, Existing Policy Reaffirmed)
- Resolution 218: Considering Feminine Hygiene Products as Medical Necessities (Active Support, Adopted as Amended)
- Resolution 220: Ban on Semi-Automatic Assault Weapons and High Capacity Ammunition Magazines (Active Support, Existing Policy Reaffirmed)
• Resolution 222: Evidence Based Treatment in Substance Abuse Treatment Facilities (Active Support, Substitute Resolution, “Support The Elimination of Barriers to Medication-Assisted Treatment for Substance Use Disorder,” adopted in lieu of Resolutions 222 and 240)
• Resolution 223: Treating Opioid Use Disorder in Hospitals (Active Support, Resolution 223 adopted as amended in lieu of Resolution 239 with addition of a third Resolve to read: “RESOLVED, That our AMA will take all necessary steps to seek clarification of interpretations of 21 CFR 1306.07 by the DEA and otherwise seek administrative, statutory and regulatory solutions that will allow for (a) prescribers with the waiver permitting the prescribing of buprenorphine for opioid use disorder to be able to do so, when indicated, for hospitalized inpatients, using a physician order rather than an outpatient prescription, and (b) hospital inpatient pharmacies to be able to fill such authorizations by prescribers without this constituting a violation of federal regulations.”)
• Resolution 233: Support for Reauthorization of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Active Support, Adopted)
• Resolution 239: Treating Opioid Use Disorder in Hospitals (Active Support, Resolution 223 adopted as amended in lieu of Resolution 239)
• Resolution 240: Treating Opioid Use Disorder in Treatment Facilities (Active Support, Substitute Resolution, “Support The Elimination of Barriers to Medication-Assisted Treatment for Substance Use Disorder,” adopted in lieu of Resolutions 222 and 240)
• Resolution 243: Report Health Care Provider Sex Crimes to Law Enforcement (Active Support, Substitute Resolution, “Addressing Barriers to Reporting Health Care Provider Sex Crimes,” adopted in lieu of Resolution 243)
• Resolution 244: Increasing the Legal Age of Purchasing Ammunition and Firearms From 18 to 21 (Active Support, Policy H-145.985 adopted as amended in lieu of Resolutions 244 and 248.)
• Resolution 248: Opposition to Firearm Concealed Carry Reciprocity (Active Support, Policy H-145.985 adopted as amended in lieu of Resolutions 244 and 248.)

Reference Committee C (Medical Education)
• Resolution 306: Sex and Gender Based Medicine (Active Support, Adopted as Amended with a change in title to read as follows: “Sex- and Gender-Based Medicine”)

Reference Committee D (Public Health)
• Resolution 402: Schools as Gun-Free Zones (Active Support, Adopted as Amended)
• Resolution 404: Emphasizing the Human Papillomavirus Vaccines as Anti-Cancer Prophylaxis for a Gender-Neutral Demographic (Active Support, Policy D-170.995 Adopted as Amended in lieu of Resolution 404)
• Resolution 405: Racial Housing Segregation as a Determinant of Health and Public Access to Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Data (Active Support, Adopted)
• Resolution 417: Reducing Disparities in Obstetric Outcomes, Maternal Morbidity, and Prenatal Care (Active Support, Adopted as Amended)
• Resolution 419: Violence Prevention (Active Support, The first Resolve of Resolution 419 referred for report back at I-18, the second Resolve of Resolution 419 not adopted, and the third Resolve of Resolution 419 referred for report back at I-18.)
• Resolution 422: School Drinking Water Quality Testing, Monitoring, and Maintenance (Active Support, Amended Policy H-135.928 adopted in lieu of Resolution 422.)

Reference Committee E (Science and Technology)
• Resolution 504: Ending the Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) policy on Mifepristone (Mifeprex) (Active Support, Adopted)
Reference Committee F (AMA Governance and Finance)

- BOT Report 20: Anti-Harassment Policy (Active Support, Adopted as Amended)
- BOT Report 33: Plan for Continued Progress toward Health Equity (Resolution 601-A-17) (Active Support, Adopted as Amended)
- Resolution 601: Health Professionals Advancing LGBT Equality (Active Support, Adopted)

Reference Committee G (Medical Service)

- BOT Report 31: Physician Burnout and Wellness Challenges, Physician and Physician Assistant Safety Net, Identification and Reduction of Physician Demoralization (Resolution 601-I-17; Resolution 604-I-17; Resolution 605-I-17) (Active Support, Referred)
- CMS Report 05: Financing of Long-Term Services and Supports (Active Support, Adopted as Amended)
- Resolution 702: Basic Practice Professional Standards of Physician Employment (Active Support, Referred)
- Resolution 703: Subject: Economic Credentialing (Active Support, Existing Policy Reaffirmed)

Complete final actions on each of these can be found on the AMA HOD website at https://www.ama-assn.org/about/business-ama-house-delegates-2018-annual-meeting.

In addition, I would like to thank our volunteers who participated in the AMA-WPS Policymaking and HOD Handbook Review committees. The Policymaking Committee facilitates the development of resolutions for the WPS. The HOD handbook review process lays the groundwork for our positions and makes sure that every issue is looked at for WPS relevance. I hope that everyone will consider volunteering some of your valuable time for these WPS functions. Our resolutions and positions as a Section are an important part of ensuring that AMA policy remains relevant for women physicians.

If you have any questions on the actions of the WPS or would like to become more involved in the WPS policy process, please do not hesitate to contact wps@ama-assn.org to find out more.

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