



Young Physicians Section Delegate's Report from the 2013 Annual Meeting

The Young Physicians Section (YPS) of the AMA was again an active part of the AMA House of Delegates (HOD) meeting in Chicago. 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 essential 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 Resolution 1: Maintenance of Certification – Part IV and Osteopathic Continuous Certification – Component 4. Resolution 1, adopted by the YPS at the 2013 Annual Meeting, asks the AMA to work with the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) and the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) to create, streamline, and integrate activities that satisfy Part IV/Component 4 of Maintenance of Certification within existing processes already undertaken by physicians. Resolution 1 was brought forward to the HOD for deliberation during the 2013 Annual Meeting. 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 1: Physician Exercise of Conscience (active refer back to CEJA); Resolution 5: Confirming Birth Certificate Policies to Current Medical Standards for Transgender Patients (active support); Resolution 6: Maintaining Public Safety and Trust in Medicine (active support of reaffirmation/refer); Resolution 8: Physicians and Physicians-in-Training as Examples for Their Patients to Promote Wellness and Healthy Lifestyles (active support with amendment to delete second resolved); Resolution 102: Patient Satisfaction Surveys and Quality Parameters as Criteria for Physician Reimbursement (support reaffirmation/active support if not reaffirmation); Resolution 114: Oncofertility and Fertility Preservation Treatment (active support); BOT Report 16: Invasive Procedures (active support of referral); Resolution 215: Reform the U.S. Farm Bill to Improve U.S. Public Health and Food Sustainability (active support of original resolution); Resolution 220: Firearm Safety (support original 220 resolution with an amendment in lieu of Resolutions 214, 221, 222, and 224); CME 8: The Changing Training Environment: Access to Procedural Training for Residents and Fellows (Resolution 328-A-12) (active support); Resolution 305: Study of Decertification of Physicians Practicing with a Limited License (active support); CLRPD 1: Proposal for a Women Physicians Section (active support); Resolution 610: Fair Access to Science and Technology Research Act for Improved Access to Medical Research (active refer for report back); and Resolution 721: EHR Standardization (active support of Substitute Resolution 721). 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>.

Of note, the YPS-authored Resolution 4 Confirming Birth Certificate Policies to Current Medical Standards for Transgender Patients was adopted as policy. Resolution 319 which was brought forward at this meeting as well (as noted above) had much of its concerns incorporated into the CME 4 report.

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 YPS 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) 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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AMA-YPS Delegate