



Young Physicians Section Delegate's Report from the 2015 Annual Meeting

The Young Physicians Section (YPS) of the AMA was again an active and integral 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 the proffered YPS position on 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. YPS delegates then offered testimony in all of the HOD reference committees based on the Assembly's direction to actively support or oppose relevant reports and resolutions. Our team approach allows more young physicians to speak on behalf of the YPS in front of the reference committees, and it enables our members to bring YPS issues to their state and specialty caucuses. 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 our Assembly, the delegate and alternate delegate would have been unable to speak to all of these items. Thank you to all who participated, we simply could not do it without you.

In our YPS Reference Committee we considered five reports and two resolutions:

- *Report A: Governing Council Activities/Action Plan Update*

Report A is a compilation of activities accomplished by the AMA-YPS since the 2014 Interim Meeting. Updates on AMA-YPS objectives are organized under five main categories: focus; communications; leadership development; membership; and participation.

- *Report B: State Medical Society Representation in the AMA-YPS Assembly*

Report B is an informational report and includes the 2015 allocations for state society representation in the AMA-YPS.

- *Report C: Specialty Society Representation in the AMA-YPS Assembly*

Report C presents the criteria for specialty society representation in the AMA-YPS Assembly and gives an update on the level of specialty representation.

- *Report D: AMA-YPS Finance Report*

Report D is an informational report on the AMA-YPS budget and finances.

- *Report E: Update on Efforts to Increase Specialty Society Representation in the AMA-YPS (Increasing Specialty Society Representation in the AMA-YPS, AMA-YPS Report B-I-14)*

In November 2014, the YPS Governing Council presented AMA-YPS Report B-I-14, "Increasing Specialty Society Representation in the AMA-YPS," which outlined initial strategies to increase the number of societies represented in the AMA-YPS Assembly.

To encourage additional specialty society representation, your YPS Governing Council proposed the following actions:

1. Provide information packets on representation in the AMA-YPS to young physician leaders (i.e., board members, etc.) within specialty societies that do not have representation;
2. Connect with AMA members that are part of the specialties not represented in the AMA-YPS and encourage them to serve as a liaison to the young physicians in their society or identify someone in their society for further outreach;
3. Conduct an outreach to residency and fellowship programs in the specialties where the AMA-YPS lacks representation; thereby generating interest in involvement in the YPS for future young physicians;

4. Reach out to societies that are eligible for representation in the AMA-YPS Assembly that have not sent a representative in the past two years; and
5. Provide a listing on the AMA-YPS webpage that identifies the names of societies eligible for representation in the AMA-YPS along with information on their allocated number of seats.

- *YPS Resolution 1: Transgenerational Effects of Environmental Toxins on Reproductive Health*

Resolution 1 asks that our AMA study the evidence on the possible transgenerational effects of environmental toxins on reproductive health and development, with a report back at the 2016 Interim Meeting.

This resolution was passed by the YPS assembly and will be submitted at the 2015 AMA Interim Meeting.

- *YPS Resolution 2: Formalizing the MSS–RFS–YPS Coalition*

Resolution 2 asks that the YPS Governing Council work with the MSS and RFS Governing Councils to study possibly formalizing an MSS–RFS–YPS coalition at the AMA HOD.

This resolution was adopted amended and passed by your YPS assembly to read:

RESOLVED, that the YPS Governing Council shall work with the MSS and RFS Governing Councils to study possibly formalizing an MSS–RFS–YPS coalition at the AMA HOD and there shall be a report back by the 2016 Annual Meeting. (Directive to Take Action)

The Assembly also amended the title to read: STRENGTHENING THE MSS-RFS-YPS RELATIONSHIP

Your Governing Council will begin this work and will report back to you on our progress at the 2015 Interim 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 other important items of business, including:

Reference Committee on Constitution and Bylaws

Resolution 5: Principles of Human Subjects Research Shall Apply to Online Research Projects (active support, the resolution was **adopted as amended**)

Reference Committee A:

Resolution 103: Three Day Stay Rule (active support, **Substitute Resolution 103 adopted as amended**)

Resolution 104: Medicaid Children's Health Insurance Program and Vaccines for Children Payment Reform (active support, **current policy reaffirmed**)

Resolution 107: Reimbursement for End-of-Life Counseling (active support, **amended Policy H-390.916 adopted in lieu 23 of Resolution 107**)

Resolution 119: Out of Network Coverage Denials for Physician Prescriptions and Ordered Services & Resolution 126: Out-of-Network Restrictions of Physicians (active support, both resolutions were **adopted**)

Reference Committee B: Legislative Advocacy

Board of Trustees Report 7: Reducing Gun Violence (active support, **substitute recommendation referred**)

Board of Trustees Report 19 Liability Related to Referrals from Free Clinics (active support, **adopted as amended**)

Resolution 206: Trade Deals Must Not Threaten Health or Environment (active support, **current policy reaffirmed**)
Resolution 207: Appropriate use of compounded Medications in Medical Offices (active support, **adopted as amended**)
Resolution 212: Support for Expanded Funding for National, State and Local Public Health (active support, **current policy reaffirmed**)
Resolution 216: Preventing Firearm-Related Injury and Morbidity in Youth (active support, **adopted as amended**)
Resolution 224: Electronic Medical Records Vendor Accountability (active refer resolveds 2 & 3, **Substitute Resolution 224 referred**)
Resolution 230: Opposing linking ABMS certification to interstate licensure and telemedicine (active oppose, **Resolution 235 adopted in lieu of Resolutions 230 and 231 and all of our assembly's concerns were addressed by this substitution**)
Resolution 234: Preserving Free Speech and Confidentiality in the Physician-Patient Relationship (active support, **adopted**)

Reference Committee C:

Resolution 301: Alerting Physicians to Deadlines for MOC (active support, **adopted**)
Resolution 302: Re-Evaluating Knowledge Assessment in MOC (active support, **adopted**)
Resolution 303: Autonomy in Utilization of CME Funds by Employed Physicians (active support, **adopted**)

Resolutions 301, 302, and 303 came out of the YPS assembly, and all three were adopted without change in language with broad support. This only goes to show the valuable and excellent work that the section does for the rest of the HOD.

Resolution 308: Reducing the Financial and Educational Costs of Residency Interviews (active support, **adopted as amended with change in title**)
Resolution 309: Maintenance of Certification (active oppose, **referred**)

Reference Committee D:

Resolution 406 - Increasing Toy Gun Safety (active support, **substitute Resolution 406 adopted**)
Resolution 409: Addressing Immigrant Health Disparities (active support, **adopted as amended**)
Resolution 412: Regulation of Electronic Cigarettes (active support, **HOD Policies H-495.987 and H-36 495.972 adopted as amended in lieu of Resolutions 412 and 419 and Policy H-495.973 reaffirmed**)
Resolution 421: Raise Minimum legal Age to Purchase Tobacco Products to 21 (active support, **HOD Policy H-495.986 adopted as amended in lieu of Resolutions 421 and 424 and 45 Policies H-495.973, H-490.909 and H-495.972 46 reaffirmed**)

Reference Committee E:

Resolution 512: Off-Label Use of Hormone Therapy (active support, **referred**)
Resolution 521: Promoting Good Fomite Stewardship in Clinical Settings (active support, **current policy reaffirmed**)

Reference Committee F: AMA Finance and Governance

CLRPD 3: Best Practices and Successful Efforts to Increase Diversity by Age of AMA Delegates and Alternates (active oppose for referral, **referred**);
Resolution 602: Donating reimbursements to the AMA Foundation (active support, **referred**)

Reference Committee G:

CMS Report 4: Price Transparency (active oppose for referral, **adopted as amended**);
Resolution 703: Prevention of Physician Credentialing Abuse in Employed Settings (active support, **current policy reaffirmed**)
Resolution 713: Include Telemedicine in the Definition of Direct Supervision (active oppose for referral, **referred**)

Complete final actions on each of these can be found on the AMA HOD website at: <http://www.ama-assn.org/sub/meeting/reportsresolutions.html>.

As you can see, as a section we are very successful advocates, The YPS testified on 31 items of business and the HOD was aligned with the YPS positions on most of the reports and resolutions.

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 on the actions of the YPS or would like to become more involved in the YPS policy process, please do not hesitate to contact me at hilaryfair@gmail.com to find out more.

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AMA-YPS Delegate