

REPORT TO YPS RE: ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON LGBTQ ISSUES

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Highlights from 2022-2023 strategic plan

- Facilitate member involvement, mentoring, leadership development, and networking for LGBTQ+ physicians, medical students, and allies. The Advisory Committee continues to foster an inclusive environment for AMA members that identify as LGBTQ. Our listserv reaches 1,800 individuals and relays important information about the activities of the Advisory Committee, leadership opportunities and important LGBTQ health and conference resources for physicians.
- Improve health equity for LGBTQ+ patients and communities and increase LGBTQ+ representation in the physician workforce. The Advisory Committee continues to offer meaningful educational events to improve health care delivery and understanding of LGBTQ+ patients and communities. At 2022 Interim Meeting, the Advisory Committee hosted the Hawai'i Health and Harm Reduction Center to provide a cultural competencies training on native Hawai'ian LGBTQ traditions that are important to know when providing health care to native communities.
- Engage internal and external stakeholders in amplifying AMA policy and enhancing education and awareness efforts on LGBTQ+ health and well-being. The Advisory Committee and the Women Physician Section are collaborating on a podcast with each group selecting a speaker to discuss Physician Burnout and Well-being from the perspective of being an under-represented physician in practice. The Advisory Committee also supported a letter from GLMA: Health Professionals Advancing LGBTQ Equality (GLMA) to the FDA on updating sperm donation regulations and promoted the letter to the Federal advocacy team which resulted in the AMA signing on to the letter. Additionally, the Advisory Committee met with the Health Equity and Solutions team to discuss AMA recommendations to the ICD -10 committee to advocate to remove stigmatizing and discriminatory language to LGBTQ individuals in coding and diagnostic practices. The Advisory Committee also meets regularly with the Center on Health Equity to align priorities and collaborate when possible.

We have continued to foster close partnerships with external stakeholders such as the Howard Brown Health Center, Building the Next Generation of Academic Physicians (BNGAP), Northwestern University's Institute for Sexual and Gender Minority Health (ISGMH), Human Rights Campaign and GLMA through regular communication, attending conferences and educational events, and opportunities to present to the Advisory Committee at committee meetings.

- In addition to the strategic objectives, the committee identified the following items as additional priorities and areas of focus which have had successful tactics implemented.
 - Promoting physician safety from threats and violence, especially when providing medically necessary, evidence-based care. The AMA, in collaboration with the American Hospital Association and the American Children's Hospital Association sent a joint letter to the United States Department of Justice urging that all threats to providers and clinics that offer gender affirming care be investigated and prosecuted.
 - Monkeypox (Mpox) eradication and education, including equitable vaccine and treatment distribution. The Advisory Committee met with Dr. Sandra Fryhofer, who chaired of the Board

of Trustees response and messaging on Mpox, to ensure the AMA messaging on Mpox reduced stigma and promoted equitable treatment and access to the vaccine.

Top priority policy topics for A-23

- Gender Affirming Care evidence and access to treatment.
- Telehealth and controlled medicines: the committee is working to ensure that proposed regulation changes from the DEA to telehealth medicine and medication prescriptions do not limit which medications that can be prescribed over telehealth and do not negatively impact individuals who receive hormone therapy prescriptions thru telehealth appointments.

Education topics for A-23

The Advisory Committee is planning a panel educational event on the current landscape of providing gender affirming care. This will include an update from Dr. Chen with Northwestern, who recently authored a study published in the New England Journal of Medicine on the mental health benefits for those receiving gender affirming care treatment. It will also feature physician team members from Northwestern's Gender Pathway program, including an endocrinologist and surgeon. Dr. Magda Houlberg, former chair for the Advisory Committee, and Chief Clinical Officer for Howard Brown Health will discuss tactics and measure to ensure physician safety and well-being who are employed at the Howard Brown gender affirming care clinics.

Recent activities of interest

The Advisory Committee liaison to the AMAF Fellowship Commission on LGBTQ+ Health attended the first commission meeting of 2023 in Madison, Wisconsin in March 2023. The University of Wisconsin is one of the selected fellowship sites and all fellows provided an update on progress to the Commission.

The Advisory Committee attended the Building The Next Generation of Academic Physicians (BNGAP) LGBT Health Workforce Conference April 20-22, 2023. The conference provided an overview of up-to-date practices (climate, educational, research, and clinical) in preparing the health care workforce to address the health concerns and disparities of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) communities. The AC held a closed meeting to debrief the conference. The AC invited Dr. Kellan Baker of Whitman Walker for a portion of the meeting to discuss the current legislative landscape.