The mission of the AMA Young Physicians Section (YPS) is to strengthen the value of AMA membership for young physicians while maximizing young physicians’ contributions to the AMA’s brand vision through involvement, advocacy and communications. In accordance with YPS Report E (June 2021) - AMA-YPS Strategic Plan, the section objectives for 2021-2026 include:

Focus:
- Disseminate information on AMA resources that could help address issues of concern for young physicians;
- Raise awareness of the challenges facing young physicians in the House of Delegates (HOD) and to AMA leadership; and
- Ensure education and policymaking activities are reflective of issues that affect the practice of medicine for young physicians.

Communications:
- Provide regular updates on AMA initiatives and other topics of interest to young physicians;
- Identify opportunities to promote dialogue among Section members and YPS Governing Council (GC) during and between meetings; and
- Actively engage AMA physician and staff leadership to ensure that the young physician perspective is represented in AMA general communications as appropriate.

Leadership Development:
- Promote available leadership development seminars, workshops, and other relevant activities or resources to young physicians;
- Offer opportunities for young physician members to connect with established AMA leaders; and
- Encourage young physicians to seek leadership positions in the AMA.

AMA-YPS Active Participation:
- Monitor themes of policy discussions to ensure they reflect issues of concern for young physicians;
- Continue outreach to various State and Specialty Societies as well as HOD members to promote increased young physician involvement and diversity in the AMA-YPS Assembly;
- Organize and lead efforts to expand involvement and representation of early career physicians within the House of Delegates and among leadership roles across the organization;
- Identify opportunities for AMA-YPS Assembly members to engage other young physician members in section activities; and
- Support transition of late-stage residents to the AMA-YPS.

To further the Section’s mission, the GC has accomplished the following activities since the June 2023 AMA-YPS Assembly meeting.
FOCUS

YPS COMMITTEES

YPS committees contribute to raising awareness of issues impacting young physicians, disseminating information that could help address those issues of concern, and ensuring alignment with education and policy activities when appropriate.

The Governing Council continuously assesses its standing committees to ensure alignment with the Section’s objectives and strategic direction. After gauging the interest of the YPS Assembly members, three standing committees – Engagement and Opportunity, Professional Development, and Resolution Writing – convened in 2024. It is important to note that the Resolution Writing Committee was formerly an ad hoc committee.

To further maintain the Sections’ focus, the Governing Council agreed to sunset the following standing committees: Innovation, Medical Education, Strategy and Leadership, and Value-Based Care. Additional information is available in YPS Report D-A-24 {report link to be embedded}, YPS Standing Committees.

2023 EDUCATION SESSIONS

The YPS continues to be involved in delivering educational content. At the 2023 Annual meeting, the YPS explored the history and complexities of Political Action Committees (PACs) in a session entitled, “Money Talks: How your PAC donations influence the political process.” In addition, this session addressed how physicians can impact the political and policy process through PACs. Manny Bonilla, Chief Advocacy Officer of the American Society of Anesthesiologists; David Roberts, Chief of Staff and Director of Government Affairs for the Mississippi State Medical Society; and Daniel Swartzman, Associate Professor, Healthcare Administration and Public Health Sciences, Loyola University served as the presenters.

During the 2023 Interim meeting, the YPS hosted "Medicine in Motion: How physicians can get involved politically.” Panelists included Brooke Buckley, MD, MBA, Chair of the American Medical Political Action Committee; Joe Mayer, AMA Manager for Political Education and Legislative Grassroots; Dan Morhaim, MD, former member of the Maryland House of Delegates; and John O’Bannon, MD, former member of the House of Delegates of the General Assembly of Virginia. This session addressed the importance of physician engagement in policymaking on various levels and outlined several aspects of running for office – identifying donors, branding, and coalition building within political parties.

YPS POLICY ACTIVITIES

The following AMA-YPS reports were adopted by the YPS Assembly in 2023:

- Governing Council Activities/Action Plan Update (Report A-A-23). Report A is a compilation of activities accomplished by the Section since the June 2022 YPS Assembly meeting. Updates on AMA-YPS objectives are organized under four main categories: focus; communications; leadership development; and membership and involvement. Report A is informational and does not include recommendations.

- State Medical Society Representation in the AMA-YPS Assembly (Report B-A-23). Report B provides an overview of AMA Bylaws language related to the apportionment of state medical society representation in the YPS. This report lists the 2023 allocations for state medical society representatives in the YPS Assembly. Further, Report B shares a framework for increasing representation and promoting active participation among state medical societies.

- Specialty Society Representation and Outreach (Report C-A-23). Report C presents the criteria for specialty society representation in the YPS Assembly, specialty societies represented in the YPS Assembly, and strategies to gain new specialty society representation.

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The following AMA-YPS resolutions were adopted by the Assembly in 2023:

- **Any Willing Provider (Resolution 1-A-23).** This resolution contained the following Resolve clauses:

  RESOLVED, The American Medical Association shall develop and advocate for model "Any Willing Provider" legislation nationwide, enabling all physicians to build successful practices and deliver quality patient care (Establish New HOD Policy); and be it further

  RESOLVED, The American Medical Association shall lobby for federal regulations or legislation mandating insurers to implement "Any Willing Provider" policies as a prerequisite for participating in federally-supported programs (Directive to Take Action); and be it further

  RESOLVED, The American Medical Association will work with state and national organizations, including insurance companies, to promote and support the adoption of "Any Willing Provider" laws, and will monitor the implementation of these laws to ensure that they are having a positive impact on access to quality healthcare. (Directive to Take Action)

  YPS Resolution 1 was considered as Resolution 807 during the 2023 Interim Meeting of the AMA House of Delegates (HOD). Original Resolution 807 was adopted.

- **Prosthodontic Coverage After Oncologic Reconstruction (Resolution 2-A-23).** This resolution contained the following Resolve clause:

  RESOLVED, That our AMA work with appropriate stakeholders to advocate: (a) that prosthodontic reconstruction (including dental implants) after orofacial reconstruction secondary to oncologic resection be covered by all insurers, (b) that such coverage, shall include treatment which, in the opinion of the treating physician is medically necessary to return optimize the patient’s to a more normal appearance and function to their original form as much as possible, and (c) that such insurability be portable, i.e. not denied as a pre-existing condition if the patient’s insurance coverage changes before treatment as been initiated or completed (Directive to Take Action); and be it further
RESOLVED, That our AMA work with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to expand coverage of head and neck cancer treatment and reconstruction to include appropriate prosthodontic reconstruction (including dental implants) as part of the reconstructive journey (Directive to Take Action); and be it further

RESOLVED, That our AMA advocate for appropriate funding for prosthodontic reconstruction (including dental implants) for head and neck cancer patients that have undergone resection and reconstruction. (Directive to Take Action)

YPs Resolution 2 was considered as Resolution 808 during the 2023 Interim Meeting. Alternate Resolution 808 adopted in lieu of Resolution 808.

- Non-Physician Practitioners Oversight and Training (Resolution 3-A-23). This resolution contained the following Resolve clauses:

  RESOLVED, That the AMA reaffirm that non-physician providers are invaluable members of a physician-led team and essential to ensuring access to high-quality, efficient, cost-effective and evidence-based healthcare (Reaffirm HOD Policy); and be it further

  RESOLVED, That the AMA advocate for non-physician providers to participate in standardized training following completion of their degree program, which includes graduated responsibility consistent with milestones determined by an accredited medical board within their specialty area of practice, and is suitable for practicing under protocol agreements or without direct physician supervision (New HOD Policy); and be it further

  RESOLVED, That the AMA recognize the significant variability in training and experiences of non-physician providers through the use of the term “practicing to the top of training” (New HOD Policy); and be it further

  RESOLVED, That the AMA advocate for the pay structure for non-physician providers be commensurate to that of physician graduate medical education (GME) without detracting funding from GME funds necessary to maintain and expand current programs (Directive to Take Action); and be it further

  RESOLVED, That the AMA encourage oversight and regulation of non-physician providers by regulatory bodies comprised of individuals with equivalent and higher levels of training, including state composite medical boards. (Directive to Take Action)

YPs Resolution 3 was considered as Resolution 208 during the 2023 Interim Meeting of the AMA HOD. AMA policies H-35.965, H-35.989, H-360.987, and H-270.958 reaffirmed in lieu of Resolution 208.

- Ranked-Choice Voting in AMA Elections (Resolution 4-A-23). This resolution contained the following Resolve clause:

  RESOLVED, That our AMA amend its bylaws to use study ranked-choice voting for all elections within the House of Delegates and the Sections. (Modify Bylaws)

YPs Resolution 4 was presented for consideration at the 2023 Interim Meeting of the AMA HOD. However, it was not recommended for consideration. This resolution was resubmitted for consideration at the 2024 Annual Meeting.
- Supporting Permanent Reimbursement of Acute Hospital Care at Home (Resolution 5-A-23).

  RESOLVED, That our AMA advocate for policy making the reimbursement of Home Hospital permanent as currently enabled through the temporary Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Acute Hospital Care at Home waiver (Directive to Take Action); and be it further

  RESOLVED, That our AMA support legislation that promotes parity between the reimbursement for Home Hospital care and traditional inpatient care amongst all payors (Directive to Take Action); and be it further

  RESOLVED, That our AMA support efforts to promote the sustainability and growth of Home Hospital, including those encouraging research and innovation in the home-based acute care space (Directive to Take Action); and be it further

  RESOLVED, That this resolution be immediately forwarded for consideration at the 2023 Annual Meeting of the AMA House of Delegates. (Directive to Take Action)

This resolution was considered at the 2023 Annual Meeting as Resolution 120. Resolution 118, Advancing Acute Care at Home, was adopted as amended in lieu of Resolution 120.


This resolution contained the following Resolve clauses:

  RESOLVED, that our American Medical Association amend the title of policy D-275.948 by substitution and deletion as follows:

  Education, Training and Credentialing of Non-Physician Health Care Professionals and Their Impact on Physician Education and Training Addressing Non-physician Positions and Participation on Physician Regulatory Boards and Bodies and Potential Conflicts of Interest D-275.948; and be it further

  RESOLVED, that our AMA work with relevant stakeholders and physician regulatory bodies and boards involved in physician education, accreditation, certification, licensing, and credentialing to advocate for physician (M.D. or D.O. or foreign equivalent) led executive leadership on of these regulatory bodies and boards in order to be consistent with the AMA Recovery Plan’s efforts to fight scope creep, and prevent undermining physician confidence in these organizations; and be it further

  RESOLVED, that our AMA create a task force with the mission to increase physician (M.D. or D.O. or foreign equivalent) participation in, awareness of, and participation in opportunities in leadership positions on physician regulatory bodies and boards involved in physician education, accreditation, certification, licensing, and credentialing through mechanisms including but not limited to mentorship programs, leadership training programs, board nominations, publicizing the opportunities to the membership, and creating a centralized list of required qualifications and methods to apply for these positions.

YPS Resolution 1 will be presented for consideration at the 2024 Annual Meeting of the AMA HOD.

Details about the YPS active positions may be found in the 2023 Annual YPS Assembly Digest of Actions and 2023 Interim YPS Assembly Digest of Actions, which are located on the YPS.
policymaking page. Information on final HOD actions can be found in the 2023 Annual and 2023 Interim proceedings.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

YPS members can now explore ways to get involved and become active leaders in organized medicine by browsing a list of leadership opportunities on an AMA-YPS Web page devoted to physician leadership and involvement opportunities. Your GC encourages all members to contact us if you are interested in a leadership opportunity.

Various young physicians are serving in prestigious leadership positions within the AMA, their medical societies, and their workplaces:

- Jade Anderson, MD, joined the Musculoskeletal Imaging and Intervention Section of the University of Wisconsin-Madison as an Assistant Professor. Also, Dr. Anderson is an alternate councilor for the Wisconsin Radiological Society.

- Hans Arora, MD, PhD, was elected President-Elect of the Durham-Orange County Medical Society. He was selected as Co-chair of the North Carolina Medical Society (NCMS) Membership Advisory Committee, and also serves on the NCMS Policy Committee and Legislative Cabinet Committee. He was recently appointed Chair of the Regulatory Workgroup of the American Urological Association Legislative Affairs Committee, and Co-Chair of Quality Improvement for the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill Department of Urology.

- Alëna Balasanova, MD, was elected the 2024 president of the Nebraska Psychiatric Society (state chapter of the American Psychiatric Association). Dr. Balasanova also received the Leonard Tow Humanism Award from the Gold Humanism Honor Society, which is the highest honor bestowed by the society. In addition, Dr. Balasanova was inducted into the society branch of the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

- Tiffani Bell-Washington, MD, MPH, was selected as one of three AMA scholars for the 2024-2025 Women’s Wellbeing through Equity and Leadership (WEL) Program. The WEL, a collaborative effort across 10 organizations, aims to engage a diverse group of early- to mid-career women physicians in networking, mentorship, and training around wellbeing, equity and leadership.

- CDR Kevin Bernstein, MD, MMS, was selected as the U.S. Navy Primary Care Sports Medicine Specialty Leader. Dr. Bernstein completed his term as the President of the Uniformed Services Academy of Family Physicians (USAFP). During his term, Dr. Bernstein helped launch the USAFP Foundation. Also, Dr. Bernstein is part of the GME Selection Board process for the military match for Sports Medicine fellowships.

- Erik Blutinger, MD, is the Immediate Past Chair of the Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY) Young Physician Section; Medical Society of the County of Queens treasurer; and Public Relations and Communications Subcommittee Chair for the New York Chapter of Emergency Physicians. Dr. Blutinger is the recipient of "Unsung Hero" Award in Emergency Medicine, New York Chapter of Emergency Physicians. In addition, Dr. Blutinger serves on the State Legislative & Regulatory, Communications, and National Chapter Relations committees of the American College of Emergency Physicians.

- Anna Brown, MD, serves as an AMA Women Physicians Section (WPS) Governing Council member and the Alternate Delegate for the AMA-WPS. The AMA-WPS addresses women's health and professional issues, with a goal of increasing the number of women physicians in leadership roles and strengthening the voice of women in organized medicine.

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• Tina Chee, MD, is a member of the ACP Health and Public Policy Committee – New York Chapter; American College of Physicians (ACP) District President – Syracuse District, New York Chapter; and Co-Chair of the Physicians for Patient Protection (PPP) Advocacy and Communications Committees.

• James Docherty, DO, serves as Secretary and Treasurer for the MSSNY Young Physician Section. In addition, Dr. Docherty is the Vice Chair of the Broome County Medical Society.

• Siri Holton, MD, represents the AMA-YPS on the AMA-WPS Governing Council.

• Amar Kelkar, MD, received a $100,000 New Investigator Award from the American Society for Transplantation and Cellular Therapy. The award will go toward supporting a clinical trial using an AI avatar chatbot for additional supportive care and education for patients undergoing outpatient allergenic stem cell transplantation.

• Josh Lesko, MD, is the Associate Chief Medical Informatics Officer for his hospital. Also, Dr. Lesko was elected as a member of the Innovation Advisory Group for the American College of Emergency Physicians.

• Charles Lopresto, DO, serves as the President of the Medical Society of the County of Queens; Chair of the MSSNY Young Physician Section; the MSSNY Councilor representing the Organized Medical Staff Section; Chair of the MSSNY Public Health and Education Reference Committee; Vice-Chair of the MSSNY Quality Improvement Committee; Chair of the ACP Resolutions Committee – New York Chapter; and Vice-Chair of the ACP Climate Change Task Force – New York Chapter.

• Ray Lorenzoni III, MD, is Vice Chair of the Connecticut State Medical Society Council, Chief Medical Officer for Microscape, and Chair of the Connecticut State Medical Society Young Physician Section.

• Samuel Mathis, MD, is the recipient of the C. Frank Webber, MD Award for outstanding service to the Texas Medical Association Medical Student Section and its members.

• Benjamin Meyer, MD, was elected as the 2024 Chair for the Minnesota Medical Association Policy Council.

• Sylvestor Moses, MD, PhD, represents the AMA-YPS on the AMA Minority Affairs Section (MAS) Governing Council. The AMA-MAS provides a national forum for advocacy on minority health issues and professional concerns of minority physicians and medical students.

• Purvi Parikh, MD, is the Secretary and Board Member for PPP. Dr. Parikh is also one of Emory University’s distinguished alumni 40 under 40.

• Klint Peebles, MD, represents the AMA-YPS on the AMA Advisory Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) issues. The Advisory Committee enhances AMA policy, advocacy, and education on LGBTQ issues.

• Nicole Plenty, MD, is an AMA-WPS Governing Council member and the Delegate for the AMA-WPS.

• Brandi Ring, MD, MBA, was selected as one of three AMA scholars for the 2024-2025 WEL Program.
• Meghan Schott, DO, is the recipient of the Early Career Psychiatrist of the Year Award from Washington Psychiatric Society, George Washington University Elaine Cotlove, MD Medical Student Teaching Award in Psychiatry, and American Psychiatric Society Nancy CA Roeske MD Certificate of Recognition for Excellence in Medical Education.

• Tina Shah, MD, is the Chief Clinical Officer of Abridge, a series-C company working to build generative AI tools for medical documentation. In addition, Dr. Shah helped mobilize a grassroots effort that resulted in the passage of the “Ensuring Transparency in Prior Authorization Act” (New Jersey Assembly Bill 1255).

• Jane Simpson, DO, serves as the Vice Chair of the MSSNY Young Physician Section; MSSNY Alternate Delegate to the AMA; Vice Chair of the Education Commission for New York State Academy of Family Physicians; American Academy of Family Physicians Education Commission committee member; and was nominated as the 2024-2025 MSSNY Vice-Speaker.

• Vanessa Stan, MD, was elected to the Illinois State Medical Society Board of Trustees.

• Jocelyn Young, DO, is the recipient of the 2023 NYS Academy of Family Medicine Educator of the Year Award. Dr. Young is also the Immediate Past President of the Broome County Medical Society, Young Physician Section Councillor for MSSNY; MSSNY Commissioner of Public Health; and MSSNY Alternate Delegate to the AMA.

• Carlos Zapata, MD, is the Commissioner of Communications and Vice Speaker for MSSNY. In addition, Dr. Zapata was nominated as the 2024-2025 Speaker for MSSNY.

COMMUNICATIONS

The AMA-YPS GC contributes to two-way communications between the AMA and our young physician members during and between meetings. In addition, the AMA-YPS GC contributes to regular updates on AMA initiatives and other topics of interest to young physicians. The GC works to ensure that the young physician perspective is represented in various AMA communications channels as appropriate. One example is the YPS members and news highlights, which features a message from the current YPS Chair and updates on YPS activities.

Assembly members are encouraged to sign up for the AMA Morning Rounds Weekend Edition, a members-only, weekly e-newsletter that highlights the latest top-of-the-page news and information for physicians. Young physician members can also learn about AMA and AMA-YPS opportunities by subscribing to AMA Member and Special Group News. These monthly newsletters provide updates on advocacy issues, involvement opportunities, and news about YPS Assembly meeting deadlines. When subscribing to AMA Morning Rounds Weekend and AMA Member and Special Group News, visit the Email Newsletter Publications page and select the option to receive news for young physicians.

AMA-YPS ACTIVE PARTICIPATION

The YPS GC will continue its efforts to increase representation in the YPS Assembly, particularly among diverse physicians. In addition, the GC will continue to work with the Resident and Fellow Section to identify opportunities that will support the transition of late-stage residents to the YPS.

Lastly, policymaking support is provided before and during YPS Assembly meetings. Discussions on HOD Handbook Review Committee positions and parliamentary procedure training are among the different actions taken by the section to facilitate the policymaking process. The section hosts an online forum that allows Assembly members an opportunity to comment on YPS reports and resolutions.

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CONCLUSION

Your GC believes this report demonstrates its commitment to represent and advocate for young physicians, enhance membership value and communications, and promote leadership development. The GC appreciates the Assembly’s continued support of its projects and activities, and the Assembly’s dedication to young physician issues. The GC encourages Assembly members to share AMA-YPS accomplishments and contact the GC directly with ideas and comments.