

## REPORT OF THE AMA YOUNG PHYSICIANS SECTION GOVERNING COUNCIL

AMA-YPS Report A-A-25

Subject: Governing Council Activities/Action Plan Update

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Referred to: AMA-YPS Reference Committee

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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 2024 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.

**2024 EDUCATION SESSIONS**

The YPS continues to be involved in delivering educational content. At the 2024 Annual meeting, the YPS hosted an educational program entitled, "Improving Efficiency in Practice: Utilizing Tech and other Resources to Improve Clinical Care." In this session, attendees took away time management strategies, leveraging technology for workflow optimization, the impact of administrative burden on physicians' mental and emotional health, and effective communication within healthcare teams. Robyn Fortner Chatman, MD, MPH, Medical Director, DeCoach Recovery Centre; Tina Shah, MD, MPH, principal at TNT Enterprises; and Andrew Rudawsky, MD, Associate Medical Director of Informatics- Emergency Services, Cleveland Clinic, served as the presenters.

During the 2024 Interim meeting, the YPS hosted "Navigating the Election's Impact on Health Care Policy and Advocacy". The speaker for this session was Margaret Garikes, AMA's Vice President of Federal Affairs. This timely and prevalent topic addressed how the AMA will be prepared to navigate the results of the election and align the organization's advocacy efforts accordingly.

**YPS POLICY ACTIVITIES**

The following AMA-YPS reports were adopted by the YPS Assembly in 2024:

- Governing Council Activities/Action Plan Update (Report A-A-24). 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-24). 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 2024 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-24). 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.

- AMA-YPS Standing Committees (Report D-A-24). Report D notified the Assembly that the following standing committees were to be sunsetted: Innovation Committee, Medical Education Committee, Strategy and Leadership Committee, and Value-Based Care Committee. Taking into account the interests of the YPS Assembly members, three other standing committees convened in February 2024: Engagement and Opportunity, Professional Development, and Resolution Writing.
- AMA-YPS Endorsements of Elected Candidates (Report E-A-24). Report E is an informational report that provides the Assembly of the elected positions that have been endorsed by the YPS.
- AMA Advocacy Efforts (Report A-I-24). Report A is an informational report that provides an overview of the AMA's advocacy efforts and related resources. This report also provides an update on AMA-YPS policy activities and impact.
- AMA-YPS Update on Providing Assembly Contact Information to Candidates for YPS Governing Council: Resolution 1-A-24 (Report B-I-24). Report B is a follow-up report for Resolution 1 at A-24, that asked for the YPS IOPs to include the ability for candidates to request and be provided with Assembly members' contact information.
- AMA-YPS 2025 and 2026 Process for YPS Endorsements of Candidates for HOD (Report C-I-24). Report C summarizes the current process for endorsing candidates for elected positions in adherence with the Speakers' new endorsement timeline.

The following AMA-YPS resolutions were adopted by the Assembly in 2024:

- Model Legislation to Protect the Future of Medicine (Resolution 2-A-24). This resolution contained the following Resolve clauses:

RESOLVED, that our American Medical Association create model state and national legislation to protect the ability of medical schools and residency/fellowship training programs to have diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) and related initiatives for their students, employees, and faculty; and be it further

~~RESOLVED, that this resolution be immediately forwarded to the AMA House of Delegates.~~

YPS Resolution 2 was considered as Resolution 252 at the 2024 Annual meeting. Resolution 252 was adopted as amended.

- Adoption of the GRADE System in AMA Board Reports (Resolution 3-A-24). This resolution contained the following Resolve clauses:

RESOLVED, that our American Medical Association ~~mandates study~~ the use of ~~the Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development, and Evaluation (GRADE)~~ system for assessing the quality of evidence and the strength of recommendations in board reports when appropriate; ~~and be it further~~

~~RESOLVED, that our AMA offers training and resources to its board members and staff to ensure proper implementation and understanding of the GRADE system.~~

The title of Resolution 3 was changed to read: Study of Grading Systems Adoption of the GRADE System in AMA Board Reports

1 YPS Resolution 3 will be presented for consideration at the 2025 Annual Meeting of the AMA  
2 HOD.  
3  
4 • Adapting the YPS IOPs for the Speakers' New Endorsement Rules (Resolution 1-I-24). This  
5 resolution contained the following Resolve clauses:  
6  
7 ~~RESOLVED, the YPS Governing Council shall appoint an endorsement committee composed~~  
8 ~~of all the credentialed YPS representatives at the 2025 Annual YPS meeting to determine~~  
9 ~~during that meeting which eligible candidate will receive the YPS endorsement for young~~  
10 ~~physician trustee YPS member of the AMA Board of Trustees.~~  
11  
12 ~~RESOLVED, the YPS Governing Council shall immediately submit a revised endorsement~~  
13 ~~process to the Speakers in place of the previous proposal, which stipulates that the YPS~~  
14 ~~Governing Council shall appoint an endorsement committee composed of all the credentialed~~  
15 ~~YPS members at the 2025 Annual YPS Assembly meeting to determine during that meeting~~  
16 ~~which eligible candidate will receive the YPS endorsement for the YPS member of the AMA~~  
17 ~~Board of Trustees.~~  
18  
19 RESOLVED, the YPS Governing Council shall appoint a 9-member nominating committee  
20 composed of 3 members of the Governing Council selected by the Governing Council and 6  
21 members that are elected by all credentialed YPS representatives at the 2024 Interim YPS  
22 Assembly for endorsements for candidates running for a House elected position at Annual  
23 2026.  
24  
25 YPS Resolution 1 was adopted by substitution.  
26  
27 • Promoting Medication Continuity and Reducing Prior Authorization Burdens (Resolution 2-I-  
28 24). This resolution contained the following Resolve clauses:  
29  
30 RESOLVED, that our American Medical Association advocate for state and federal legislation  
31 that minimizes the impact of prior authorization requirements and payer-specific formulary  
32 tiering policies for medications during transitions or lapses in insurance coverage; and be it  
33 further ~~or regulations requiring health insurance companies to honor prior authorizations for~~  
34 ~~medications for up to 12 months when patients switch between insurance plans or experience~~  
35 ~~coverage gaps.~~  
36  
37 RESOLVED, that our AMA collaborates with relevant stakeholders to develop and promote  
38 best practices for implementing medication continuity policies across difference insurance  
39 plans and healthcare systems.  
40  
41 YPS Resolution 2 will be presented for consideration at the 2025 Annual Meeting of the AMA  
42 HOD.  
43  
44 • Comprehensive Third-Party Audit of AMA Medicare Payment Reform Strategy (Resolution 3-  
45 I-24). This resolution contained the following Resolve clauses:  
46  
47 ~~RESOLVED, that our American Medical Association will engage a third party organization to~~  
48 ~~conduct a comprehensive audit of the AMA's Medicare payment reform strategy; and be it~~  
49 ~~further~~  
50  
51 ~~RESOLVED, that this third party audit will explore all aspects of the AMA's efforts regarding~~  
52 ~~Medicare payment reform, including but not limited to: lobbying efforts, funding allocations,~~  
53 ~~overall strategic approach, and any internal or external factors contributing to the lack of~~  
54 ~~progress; and be it further~~  
55

1 ~~RESOLVED, that the findings of this third-party audit will be reported back to the HOD with~~  
2 ~~actionable recommendations for how to improve and accelerate the AMA's Medicare payment~~  
3 ~~reform efforts; and be it further~~

4  
5 ~~RESOLVED, that the AMA will commit to transparency by sharing the audit results and the~~  
6 ~~steps taken in response with its membership and the public, demonstrating a renewed~~  
7 ~~commitment to achieving meaningful Medicare payment reform.~~

8  
9 RESOLVED, that our AMA provide a summary of findings and actionable recommendations  
10 from both internal and external advocacy consultants regarding Medicare payment reform. The  
11 report must primarily focus on barriers identified, gaps in the current strategy, and specific  
12 recommendations for improving and accelerating advocacy efforts; and be it further

13  
14 RESOLVED, that our AMA share with its members comprehensive reports on our Medicare  
15 payment reform advocacy efforts, including consultant findings on major barriers, strategy  
16 gaps, and recommendations for improvement, at both the Interim and Annual Meetings  
17 beginning at I-25, and more frequently as legislative dynamics dictate.

18  
19 The title of Resolution 3 was changed to read: Comprehensive Third-Party Audit Increasing  
20 Transparency of AMA Medicare Payment Reform Strategy.

21  
22 YPS Resolution 3 will be presented for consideration at the 2025 Annual Meeting of the AMA  
23 HOD.

24  
25 Details about the YPS active positions may be found in the 2024 Annual YPS Assembly Digest of  
26 Actions and 2024 Interim YPS Assembly Digest of Actions, which are located on the [YPS](#)  
27 [policymaking page](#). Information on final HOD actions can be found in the [2024 Annual](#) and 2024  
28 Interim proceedings.

## 29 30 **LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

31  
32 YPS members can now explore ways to get involved and become active leaders in organized  
33 medicine by browsing a list of leadership opportunities on an [AMA-YPS Web page](#) devoted to  
34 physician leadership and involvement opportunities. Your GC encourages all members to contact  
35 us if you are interested in a leadership opportunity.

36  
37 Various young physicians are serving in prestigious leadership positions within the AMA, their  
38 medical societies, and their workplaces:

- 39
- 40 • Alëna Balasanova, MD, was elected to the board of directors of the Metro Omaha Medical  
41 Society as the Legislative Co-Chair.
  - 42
  - 43 • Jordan Warchol, MD, MPH, and Hans Arora, MD, PhD were elected to AMPAC Board of  
44 Directors, the bipartisan political action committee of the AMA.
  - 45
  - 46 • Klint Peebles, MD, represents the AMA-YPS on the AMA Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,  
47 Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ+) Section. The Section enhances AMA policy, advocacy,  
48 and education on LGBTQ issues.
  - 49
  - 50 • Nicole Plenty, MD, is an AMA-WPS Governing Council member and the Delegate for the AMA-  
51 WPS.

## 52 53 **COMMUNICATIONS**

54  
55 The AMA-YPS GC contributes to two-way communications between the AMA and our young  
56 physician members during and between meetings. In addition, the AMA-YPS GC contributes to

1 regular updates on AMA initiatives and other topics of interest to young physicians. The GC works  
2 to ensure that the young physician perspective is represented in various AMA communications  
3 channels as appropriate. One example is the [YPS members and news highlights](#), which features a  
4 message from the current YPS Chair and updates on YPS activities.

5  
6 Assembly members are encouraged to sign up for the *AMA Morning Rounds Weekend Edition*, a  
7 members-only, weekly e-newsletter that highlights the latest top-of-the-page news and information  
8 for physicians. Young physician members can also learn about AMA and AMA-YPS opportunities  
9 by subscribing to *AMA Member and Special Group News*. These monthly newsletters provide  
10 updates on advocacy issues, involvement opportunities, and news about YPS Assembly meeting  
11 deadlines. When subscribing to *AMA Morning Rounds Weekend* and *AMA Member and Special*  
12 *Group News*, visit the [Email Newsletter Publications](#) page and select the option to receive news for  
13 young physicians.

#### 14 15 **AMA-YPS ACTIVE PARTICIPATION**

16  
17 The YPS GC will continue its efforts to increase representation in the YPS Assembly, particularly  
18 among diverse physicians. In addition, the GC will continue to work with the Resident and Fellow  
19 Section to identify opportunities that will support the transition of late-stage residents to the YPS.

20  
21 Lastly, policymaking support is provided before and during YPS Assembly meetings. Discussions  
22 on HOD Handbook Review Committee positions and parliamentary procedure training are among  
23 the different actions taken by the section to facilitate the policymaking process. The section hosts  
24 an online forum that allows Assembly members an opportunity to comment on YPS reports and  
25 resolutions

#### 26 27 **CONCLUSION**

28  
29 Your GC believes this report demonstrates its commitment to represent and advocate for young  
30 physicians, enhance membership value and communications, and promote leadership  
31 development. The GC appreciates the Assembly's continued support of its projects and activities,  
32 and the Assembly's dedication to young physician issues. The GC encourages Assembly members  
33 to share AMA-YPS accomplishments and contact the GC directly with ideas and comments.

