

**AMERICAN MEDICAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION
HOUSE OF DELEGATES 2017
RESOLUTION: A11**

INTRODUCED BY: Allison Hare, Community & Public Health Programming Coordinator, Community & Public Health Action Committee; Diana Huang, Vice President for Programming Development; Tanya Khan, Community & Public Health Advocacy Coordinator, Community & Public Health Action Committee; Mallika Sabharwal, Chair, Community & Public Health Action Committee

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SUBJECT: Amendment to Principles Regarding Preventive Medicine and Public Health

TYPE: Resolution of Principles

1 WHEREAS in 1995 AMSA resolved to urge the medical profession to include preventive
2 medicine as an integral component of clinical training; and

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4 WHEREAS the American Board of Medical Specialties recognizes preventive medicine as a
5 unique medical specialty that focuses on the health of individuals, communities, and populations
6 through the application of biostatistics and epidemiology, health services management and
7 administration, control and prevention of environmental and occupational factors, clinical
8 preventive medicine activities, and assessment of social, cultural, and behavioral influences on
9 health; and (1)

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11 WHEREAS our PPP currently supports education around preventive medicine in broad terms but
12 not specific approaches that would support the development of students into professionals in the
13 field of preventive medicine and public health; and

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15 WHEREAS there are currently 73 accredited Preventive Medicine residency training programs
16 in the United States and Preventive Medicine is one of the 24 medical specialties recognized by
17 the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), but medical students are usually not made
18 aware of the specialty of Preventive Medicine as a training option; and (1)

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20 WHEREAS most medical schools do not have elective opportunities in Preventive Medicine
21 available for interested students, but offer elective opportunities in many subspecialty fields;

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23 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Principles on Preventive Medicine and Public
24 Health (p. 84 - 86) be AMENDED BY ADDITION to state:

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26 In regard to education:

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28 a. URGES the American medical profession to make preventive medicine, including clinical
29 preventive medicine and epidemiology, an integral part of the core education of students,
30 residents, practicing physicians and other health professionals;

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32 b. URGES physicians and other healthcare professionals to educate themselves on the use of
33 evidence-based ICAM regarding lifestyle practices, foods and herbal medicines, towards
34 prevention and reduction of disease, particularly in a primary care setting.

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36 c. ENCOURAGES medical schools to support the formation of preventive medicine interest
37 groups to generate and maintain interest in preventive medicine, and to inform students of the
38 existence of Preventive Medicine training programs as an option for residency.

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40 d. URGES the Liaison Committee on Medical Education and accredited schools of medicine to
41 encourage all U.S. medical schools to establish an elective preventive medicine clerkship during
42 the third and/or fourth years of undergraduate medical education.

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44 FISCAL NOTE: None

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47 REFERENCES

48 1. Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Preventive Medicine: A Student
49 Resource. http://www.jhsph.edu/academics/residency-programs/prevmed_student_resource/

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