
**AMERICAN MEDICAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION
HOUSE OF DELEGATES 2016
RESOLUTION: C14**

INTRODUCED BY:	Anahita Dua
SCHOOL:	University of Texas Medical School at Houston
SUBJECT:	Amendment to Principles Regarding Vivisection in Medical Education
TYPE:	Resolution of Principles

WHEREAS each year many pre-medical students in undergraduate biology, anatomy, pharmacology, physiology and other life science courses are compelled to participate in dissections of once-living animals and/or invasive experiments on live animals including mice, rats, frogs and rabbits;

WHEREAS, non-animal teaching methods such as interactive computer simulations are available for learning anatomy, physiology, pharmacology and other biological concepts;

WHEREAS studies confirm non-animal methods teach biomedical content as well as or better than animal dissection and experimentation;

WHEREAS research shows a growing majority of the public, and many students and teachers, , , object to animal use in experiments and biomedical education;

WHEREAS currently ninety–nine percent of U.S. and Canadian medical schools do not use animals for undergraduate medical education;

WHEREAS AMSA “Strongly ENCOURAGES the replacement of animal laboratories with non-animal alternatives in undergraduate medical education”;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Principles Regarding Vivisection in Medical Education (p. 101) be AMENDED to read:

6. Regarding alternatives to animal laboratories:

- a. Strongly ENCOURAGES the replacement of animal laboratories with non-animal alternatives in undergraduate medical education (2007) **and in pre-medical curricula including undergraduate biology, anatomy, pharmacology, physiology and other life science courses.**
- b. URGES a directory of such alternative educational materials be produced. (1986)
- c. ENCOURAGES the utilization of non-animal teaching materials and methods in Continuing Medical Education. (1993)

Fiscal note: None

REPORT OF REFERENCE COMMITTEE C

DISCUSSION

BOT: Voted to adopt as written,

BRD: Voted to ***

PRD: Voted to ***

IRD: Voted to adopt as written, unanimous

ACTE: Voted to adopt as written, unanimous

For next year, we need to consider rewriting vivisection because principles of animals use.

Premedical Caucus: Voted to ***

Individual Members:

Liz Ghandekly, herself,

Premed peers forced to dissect although they object

Anatomy and physiology tools simulations better

AMSA support replacing non-animal methods in medical school using simulation

Typical classes considered premed (BCPM GPA)

Insects included-drosophila experiments can be done on computer

Simulation tools are excellent

Lina Rohman, Univ of Birmingham

Support claims made above

Gaby, James Madison

Supports claim made above

Moving into human simulated moving one step forward with technology

Dissection outdated, irrelevant, modernize

Lakshmi objects

Species homology

Humanistic education in confrontation; what life means, confronting death

Anahita adopt as written

No utility using animals

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

PROS:

Cost effective

More anatomically accurate / medically appropriate

More humane

Allows for more practice

Ethically and morally upstanding to avoid killing living things

CONS:

Premedical education would benefit from more humanistic education in confrontation; what life means, confronting death

REFERENCE COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Widespread support from BOT, IRD and ACTE and several AMSA members from different schools.

REFERENCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Adopt as written

