

Resident and Fellow Section (AMA-RFS)

Chair-elect

Name

Hussein Antar

Credentials

MD, MPH

Pronouns

He/Him



Statement of interest

My name is Hussein Antar, I'm a PGY-3 neurology resident at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center, and I am running to serve as RFS chair.

I grew up between west Africa and the Middle East, and first encountered our dysfunctional healthcare system when I moved to the US at age thirteen. We needed clearance by a PCP before starting school, but no one had arranged insurance for us, or explained how the process works. This sparked my passion to increase access to care for all patients. Since then, I have done so as the medical student member of the AMA's Council on Medical Service, a health policy advisor to the Massachusetts Senate chair of healthcare finance, and currently as chair of the Massachusetts Medical Society's RFS, one of the largest sections in the country.

We each joined the AMA for our own reasons, but we share common goals: improving the diversity of the physician workforce, combating structural racism and its effects on our workforce and patients, reforming residency training, and protecting our profession from external threats, among others. I have been humbled by the support of this section for my advocacy priorities to preserve the sanctity of the practice of medicine no matter the circumstances.

As your RFS Chair, I will ensure that every member of our section feels supported and empowered to pursue their own advocacy priorities. Together, we can preserve the integrity of our profession

and create a better future for physicians and patients alike.

Diversity statement

Diversity to me is not about checking boxes, but about the richness of perspective. I bring a unique perspective to this role, shaped by my journey across vastly different landscapes and life experiences.

I was born in Sierra Leone a small west African nation that has one of the most resource deprived healthcare systems in the world. The few times Americans hear about Sierra Leone, it's usually in the setting of a new epidemic shutting down this healthcare system.

I grew up in Lebanon, the small and beautiful nation on the eastern shores of the Mediterranean. Lebanon has plenty of doctors, but a healthcare infrastructure decimated by war. As I write this, in the past 48 hours, 12 paramedics have been killed in Lebanon in airstrikes directly targeting ambulances and health centers. The two hospitals closest to my hometown have both been damaged by airstrikes in the past week.

In the US, I have experienced both ends of the healthcare spectrum. At times, I relied on Medicaid, and other times I had access to top-tier health insurance. I'm the child of two hardworking people who never completed high school due to war and economic circumstances, but who instilled in me the value of education, so much so that I ended up pursuing a master's degree on top of my MD.