

November 3, 2024

**Report from the LGBTQ+ Section
Klint Peebles, MD FAAD; Young Physicians Section Representative**

As the YPS representative to the Governing Council of the AMA LGBTQ+ Section, I am pleased to provide the following summary of the section's initiatives and priorities.

Strategy Highlights:

At Annual Meeting 2024, CLRPD Report 1 was successfully passed by the House of Delegates, and our new Section was approved. As such, we are no longer an Advisory Committee but a full AMA section. To date, we have opened the section to membership, and members are allowed to participate in three different committees: Policy, Membership & Engagement, and Research & Education. These committees are active, recruiting members, designing their missions and frameworks, and forming structures to assist in executing their respective objectives. The Policy committee has held its first meeting and has identified a process for policy and crafting of resolutions. Longer-term goals include ongoing volunteer engagement and to galvanize further interest in the policy-making process with respect to LGBTQ+ issues.

Priority Policy Topics for Interim Meeting 2024:

The LGBTQ+ Section has identified two potential resolutions to introduce on the following topics:

- Study of Guaranteed Income Program Effects: As the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) considers adopting a new guaranteed income pilot program to help improve health outcomes for qualifying low-income individuals, it is important that the AMA prepare to provide input and guidance. Undoubtedly, the stress that results from income volatility can exacerbate, and, at times, lead to poor health outcomes. Guaranteed income payments to low-income beneficiaries would alleviate financial stress and likely improve health outcomes among beneficiaries and those in their households. We suggest having the AMA evaluate existing data on Guaranteed Income program effects on a variety of health factors and social determinants of health.
- Study on how to reduce barriers to sports participation for LGBTQIA+ athletes: The section opposes non-evidence-based laws and policies that place barriers to participation in sports on gender diverse individuals. Substantial education is needed on these topics as well as the nuances that can be found at the intersection of gender identity and sports participation. Further study on how to reduce these participation barriers is exceedingly important at this juncture.

Educational topics for I-24:

In collaboration with MSS and MAS, the LGBTQ+ Section is planning an educational session with a panel of speakers and experts on the impacts of Medical Mistrust in Marginalized Communities. The speakers encompass an array of diverse lived experiences and will be instrumental in furthering our understanding of medical mistrust and how to mitigate its ongoing impact on our ability to provide excellent, evidence-based care.

Recent Activities of Interest:

The LGBTQ+ Section Governing Council held its first in-person meeting at the Section Leadership Retreat August 9-11 in Rosemont, IL. The Governing Council enjoyed the collaborative break-out meetings and sessions and held a meeting to draft the Strategic Plan for 2024-2025 as well as to identify GC leaders to the newly formed section committees. The Committee on Constitution and Bylaws also submitted the Internal Operating Procedures to the Board of Trustees for approval for the Section. Finally, many of our Governing Council members are involved with GLMA: Health Professionals Advancing LGBTQ Equality as well as the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH) and participated in the meetings of these organizations within the last few months.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions, concerns, or feedback regarding the activities and initiatives of the LGBTQ+ Section as we continue working toward a better healthcare landscape for gender and sexual diverse people across the lifespan.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light gray rectangular background. The signature is cursive and appears to read 'J. Klint Peebles'.

J. Klint Peebles, MD FAAD
YPS Representative, AMA LGBTQ+ Section Governing Council
Delegate, American Academy of Dermatology
Vice Chair, Dermatology Section Council