

Minutes
Committee to Eliminate Health Disparities
October 20, 2017
Teleconference
7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Via Teleconference

Present

M. Monica Sweeney, MD, MPH, Chair
Linda Clark, MD, MS, Chair
Zabeer Bhatti, MD
Adolph Meyer, MD, Vice-Chair
Anthony Clemendor, MD
Nina Huberman, MD
Lynda Hohmann, MD
Thomas Madejski, MD, FACP
Michael Pisacano, MD
Malcolm Reid, MD, MPP
Leone Waltrous, MD
Frank Dowling, MD, Commissioner

Absent

Inderpal Chhabra, MD
Maria DeJesus, MD
Linda Efferen, MD
Lisa Eng, DO
Eliezer Kinberg, MD
Shail Maingi, MD
Joseph Sellers, MD
Sumir Sahgal, MD
Gregory Threatte, MD
Willie Underwood, MD

Excused

Joshua Cohen, MD, Assistant Commissioner

MSSNY Staff

Pat Clancy, Sr. VP, Public Health &
Education, Managing Director
Governmental Affairs
Terri Holmes, Secretary

- 1 **1) Welcome / Introductions:** Dr. Sweeney called the meeting to order and welcomed the
2 committee.
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4 **2) Expectations for Committee Members:** Dr. Sweeney & Dr. Clark indicated that all
5 members have a roll. When necessary there will be subcommittees formed to address certain
6 issues. The intent is for the committee to become more active.
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8 **3) Adoption of Minutes:** April 7, 2017 approved as written.
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10 **4) HCD Survey:** Dr. Clark and Dr. Sweeney worked on creating a short list of things that can
11 be done short term. It was suggested that the committee name should be changed to The
12 Committee to Eliminate Health Disparities so that the committee is not necessarily focusing on
13 problems in health care. There was general agreement that there are a lot of reasons for health
14 disparities. The committee can partner with other organizations that may already be focusing on
15 some of these topics. Some other responses from the committee were education, LGBTQ, CME
16 programs relating to LGBTQ issues, and also the discussion of an annual conference. There was
17 preliminary discussion that maybe there could be some programs added to the annual HOD. It
18 was suggested that the committee look into funding/grant for a webinar and to also reach out to
19 Dr. James Braun who works at Callen Lorde and is also the vice chair of the Infectious Diseases
20 Committee. The committee formed three subcommittees.
21 1. Subcommittee on developing statewide inventory of programs and resources designed to
22 increase the number of underrepresented minorities in medicine.

- 23 2. Understanding of organizations/programs that currently exist within the state that might
- 24 provide synergy with the goal of eliminating health disparities.
- 25 3. CME Education for physicians on topics related to health disparities. Maybe the committee
- 26 can partner with other organizations that may already be focusing on some of these topics.

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Subcommittee #1

Linda Clark, MD, Chair
Michael Pisacano, MD
Adolph Meyer, MD
Greg Threatte, MD
Inderpal Chhabra, MD
Zabeer Bhatti, MD

Subcommittee #2

Nina Huberman, MD, Chair
Leona Waltrous, MD
Lynda Hohmann, MD
Monica Sweeney, MD
Eli Kinberg, MD
Shail Maingi, MD

Subcommittee #3

Joshua Cohen, MD, Chair
Frank Dowling, MD
Arsyl DeJesus, MD
Milton Haynes, MD
Lisa Eng, MD

37 **5) Sunset Review:** The committee discussed a policy for review for the Sunset calendar at the
38 2018 MSSNY HOD.

39 **120.969 Removing Barriers to Care for Transgender Patients of gender variant :**
40 MSSNY supports ~~the resolution being presented at the American Medical Association's~~
41 ~~A'08 Meeting by the AMA Medical Student Section and AMA Resident and Fellow Section~~
42 ~~which asks that the AMA (1) support~~ public and private health insurance coverage for
43 treatment of gender ~~identity disorder~~ dysphoria, and (2) oppose categorical exclusions of
44 coverage for treatment of gender ~~identity disorder~~ dysphoria when prescribed by a physician.
45 (HOD 2008-171)

47 **RECOMMENDATION: REAFFIRMATION WITH MODIFICATION:** This original
48 resolution encapsulated support for the having both public and private health insurance coverage
49 for the treatment of gender identity disorder and that MSSNY oppose categorical exclusions of
50 coverage. The modification deletes the reference to the AMA's meeting and to the groups that
51 brought forth the resolution at the time. Staff believes this is consistent with mission of the
52 Health Care Disparities Committee and with MSSNY policy and therefore recommends that this
53 resolution be reaffirmed with modification.

54 The committee agreed with the proposed modification with the use of the term dysphoria.

56 **6) Direction of Committee 2017-2018:** Change the name of the committee to ðThe Committee to
57 Eliminate Health Disparitiesö. The business of the committee will be conducted by having
58 subcommittees work on projects of their choice then back to the full committee. The subcommittees will
59 work through email and conference calls.

61 **7) DDP Program from AMA/NACCD:** MSSNY has received a small grant from the AMA for
62 a pre-diabetes program which they have adopted and promoted in conjunction with the NACCD.
63 The idea is to create more awareness of the Prevent Diabetes Stat Program.

65 **8) Update on HOD Resolution to the AMA to Reinstate Commission:** There was a resolution
66 from New York County to recreate the committee. The AMA has created a taskforce under the
67 guidance of the AMA leadership. Both Dr. Malcolm Reid and Dr. Erick Eiting are both on the
68 task force.
69 The first meeting is in December.

71 **9) Establish 2018 Committee Meeting Dates:** January 26, 2018; April 27, 2018 and
72 October 26, 2018.

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74 **10) Adjournment:** Next meeting January 26, 2018