



MEMORANDUM

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

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TO: MSSNY Council

From: Joshua Cohen, MD
Janine Fogarty, MD
Pat Clancy, Sr. VP/Managing Director Public Health and Education

Subject: Name Change for the Committee on Health Disparities

MSSNY's Committee on Health Disparities met on April 23, 2021 and discussed the need to change the name of the committee. MSSNY Committee on Health Disparities was created in 2009 and its mission is to eliminate healthcare disparities by obtaining evidence on racial and ethnic health care disparities, identifying causes, and proposing effective strategies. The committee provides physician awareness and education, patient public education, youth-focused mentoring, and education programs on the vital role of minority physicians, and improved data collection on race and ethnicity. The committee's name has changed once before from the Committee to Eliminate Healthcare Disparities to its present name of the Committee on Health Disparities.

It is important to note that the mission is to strengthen, amplify and sustain the work of the committee to eliminate health inequities—thus ultimately improving health outcomes and closing disparities in health care. The committee agreed that a name change should be considered and should also reflect the work that the American Medical Association has done with the Center on Health Equity. Therefore, the Committee is recommending that its name be changed and is seeking this change by the MSSNY Council as follows:

The MSSNY Committee on Health Equity

(FOR COUNCIL ACTION)