**Resolution Title:** Medical Student Mistreatment: Initial Steps

WHEREAS mistreatment may have significant deleterious effects on medical students and may impede medical students’ emotional well-being and/or erode medical students’ core competencies that are intended to be learned during the medical school curriculum

WHEREAS studies have demonstrated that mistreatment affects medical student mental health, with medical students who have been subject to mistreatment exhibiting symptoms of post-traumatic stress and poor personal well-being

WHEREAS studies have further demonstrated that mistreatment affects medical students’ self-esteem, which affects their confidence and ability to succeed in their future careers.

WHEREAS over the past two decades it has been well documented that the behaviours of faculty, residents, and nurses towards medical students are frequently unprofessional and abusive, namely during clinical clerkship rotations.

WHEREAS data from the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) supports this notion, with one in six medical students in the United States reporting that they had personally experienced mistreatment; in Canada, the prevalence is likewise concerning and increasingly worrisome.

WHEREAS there is no formal definition of medical student mistreatment adopted by the CFMS.

WHEREAS further work is needed to outline the position of CFMS on appropriate guidelines to ensure that medical students at each Canadian medical school have a safe means by which to bring forward concerns of student mistreatment.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CFMS adopt a comprehensive definition of medical student mistreatment that may be referenced by all Canadian medical schools:

Medical student mistreatment arises when the behaviour of an individual results in disrespect for the dignity of the physician learner and unreasonably impedes the learning process. Medical student mistreatment may take the form of but is not limited to physical punishment, sexual harassment, psychological cruelty, and/or discrimination based on race, religion, ethnicity, sex, age or sexual orientation. Specific examples of medical student mistreatment may include but are not limited to belittlement or humiliation, being spoken to in a sarcastic of insulting manner, being intentionally neglected or left out of communications, being subjected to offensive names or remarks, and/or being required to perform personal services such as babysitting or shopping1.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT CFMS continue to advocate for Canadian medical schools to increasingly address medical student mistreatment.  
  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT CFMS work towards recommending appropriate guidelines to ensure that medical students at each Canadian medical school have a safe means by which to bring forward concerns of student mistreatment.

Financial Cost: None

Level of Effort: Variable. To be further discussed with Members of the Executive prior to SGM. Action towards fulfilling resolutions to be implemented by AGM 2016.

Line Item: Not Applicable

Moved by: Helena Zakrzewski (University of Calgary)

Seconded by: