Resolution: Healthcare for Transgender Patients

WHEREAS the Canadian Federation of Medical Students (CFMS) has no position paper on the state of healthcare for transgender patients;

WHEREAS the Canadian Medical Association (CMA) recently passed resolutions advocating for comprehensive and high-quality care for transgender patients and amended a portion of the CMA Code of Ethics, such that gender identity and gender expression are protected from discrimination when providing medical services;

WHEREAS a growing body of evidence demonstrates that transgender patients disproportionately encounter discrimination, invasive and insensitive questions, postponement of care, and inadequate medical knowledge, insomuch that 21% of transgender Ontarians avoid the emergency room during a medical emergency;

WHEREAS research has shown that education specifically addressing the medical needs of a transgender patient is necessary, yet woefully inadequate;

WHEREAS the roles of the National Officer of Reproductive and Sexual Health (NORSH) and Local Officers of Reproductive and Sexual Health (LORSH’s) are expanding to advocacy and educational workshops;

WHEREAS the adoption of such a position paper would allow the NORSH, LORSH’s and all Canadian Medical students to advocate on this issue;

WHEREAS the adoption of such a position paper would allow the Canadian Federation of Medical Students (CFMS) to release a position statement when the issue is brought up in the future;

BIRT the CFMS adopt the position paper on the “Healthcare of Transgender Patients: Medical Education and Patient Access”.

Financial Cost: N/A

Level of Effort: 3 Hours for VP Global Health, NORSH to strategize

Moved by: Han Yan, Western University

Seconded by: Christopher Charles, McMaster University

Executive Sponsored