

SUBJECT: Advocacy and Education for Sexual Health Among Teens and Young Adults

SUBMITTED BY: Kentucky American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians, Taylor Gardner-OMS I, Heather McGuire- OMS I

REFERRED TO: 2018 ACOFP Congress of Delegates

RESOLUTION NO. 22

- 1 WHEREAS, physicians must proactively address the sexual health and needs of their patients
2 and allocate time during office to address sexually transmitted diseases, unintended
3 pregnancies, and unhealthy sexual decisions, specifically among teens and young
4 adults; and
- 5 WHEREAS, young people, between the ages of 15 to 24, account for 50% of all new STDs,
6 although they represent just 25% of the sexually experienced population; and
- 7 WHEREAS, 1 in 4 teens contract a sexually transmitted disease every year; and
- 8 WHEREAS, only about 35 percent of primary care physicians report that they often or always
9 take a comprehensive sexual history and are often reluctant to address sexual health,
10 due to embarrassment, feeling ill-prepared, belief that sexual history is not relevant to
11 chief complaints, and time constraints; now, therefore be it
- 12 RESOLVED, that the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP) shall provide
13 members with access to educational materials on sexual health concerning teens and
14 young adults.

FINAL ACTION: APPROVED as of MARCH 22, 2018

References:

Sexually Transmitted Diseases.” Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 8 Dec. 2017, www.cdc.gov/std/life-stages-populations/adolescents-youngadults.htm.

Nusbaum, Margaret R.H. and Carol Hamilton. “The Proactive Sexual Health History: Key to Effective Sexual Health Care.” American Family Physician, 1 Nov. 2002, www.aafp.org/afp/2002/1101/p1705.html.