

RESOLUTION

Subject: Increase in Graduate Medical Education (GME) Funding for Dermatology Residency Programs

Submitted by: Northern Kentucky Medical Society

Referred to: Reference Committee

WHEREAS, the state of Kentucky has a higher melanoma incidence rate than the national average at a rate of 28.2 cases per 100,000 compared to 22.7 cases per 100,000¹; and

WHEREAS, the average wait time to see a dermatologist is 35 days nationally and even longer in rural areas²; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky only has one Dermatology Residency program at the University of Louisville School of Medicine which offers only 2 postgraduate year (PGY) positions annually³; and

WHEREAS, the national average for dermatology residency spots is 13 positions per state while Kentucky has 2 positions⁴; and

WHEREAS, the incidence of skin cancer cases is expected to increase while a provider shortage becomes more prevalent, especially in rural settings; and

WHEREAS, Lexington, KY is one of the least dermatologist-dense areas in the United States with 0.3 dermatologists per 100,000 people. This can be compared to areas like Boston, MA and Palo Alto, CA which have 31.9 and 36.6 dermatologists per 100,000 people, respectively⁵; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that KMA advocate to the General Assembly for increased Graduate Medical Education (GME) funding for dermatology residency programs to increase the number of Dermatology postgraduate year (PGY) spots in the state of Kentucky.

References:

1. <https://statecancerprofiles.cancer.gov/quick-profiles/index.php?tabSelected=2&statename=kentucky>
2. <https://skincancer.net/life-with-skin-cancer/how-long-get-appointment-dermatologist>
3. <https://louisville.edu/medicine/departments/medicine/divisions/dermatology/residency-program>
4. https://www.nrmp.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Advance-Data-Tables-2023_FINAL-2.pdf
5. <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamadermatology/fullarticle/2599761>