



Dear medical school student:

The American Medical Association's Medical Student Section Governing Council considers the **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgender Medical Education Assessment (LGBT-MEA)** a productive tool to analyze the current state of medical education on lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT)-related health topics in Canada and the United States.

Studies indicate that LGBT people are disproportionately at risk for a variety of medical and mental health conditions. Expanding the ability of future physicians to recognize and appropriately meet the needs of LGBT people will help eliminate these health disparities. Currently, the state of LGBT-related content in both allopathic and osteopathic medical schools is largely unknown. Survey instruments, such as the student survey tool developed by the Stanford University School of Medicine LGBT Medical Education Research Group, will serve as needs assessments when designing future LGBT-related medical school curricula.

As future physicians, we need knowledge and skills to care for patients from all communities. The LGBT-MEA will assess the breadth, depth, and efficacy of medical education with respect to caring for LGBT people. This research will foster development of practical tools that medical schools can use to evaluate and improve their curricula. It will also help realize the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) recommendation that all schools "ensure that students master the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to provide excellent, comprehensive care for GLBT patients" (AAMC Recommendations for GLBT Students and Patients, 2007).

We are partnering in the distribution of this educational survey to medical students, and **we encourage medical school students from all medical schools in Canada and the United States to participate in this study designed to improve patient care.**

For information about the AMA-MSS, please visit <http://www.ama-assn.org/go/mss>.

Questions and comments about the LGBT-MEA can be directed to the Stanford University School of Medicine LGBT Medical Education Research Group at lgbt@med.stanford.edu. You may visit their website at <http://med.stanford.edu/lgbt>.

Thank you for your participation in this important study.

Sincerely,

Hans C. Arora
Chair, Medical Student Section
American Medical Association