

Medical Students Against Interpersonal Violence:

Interpersonal Violence Definition: The World Health Organization defines violence as “the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community, that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, maldevelopment or deprivation”. Interpersonal violence refers to violence between individuals.

PURPOSE: To promote and examine the role of medical students in addressing interpersonal violence as a medical and health issue through advocacy, education, and research.

OUR VISION is to advocate for and offer high quality educational opportunities to learners about interpersonal violence as a medical and health issue based on lived experiences of subject matter experts (including survivors, patients, and healthcare providers), evidence, research, current standards, or guidelines.

UNMET NEED AND CONTRIBUTION TO STUDENT LIFE:

In the context of ongoing social, cultural, and political changes in the Me-Too era, this group helps medical students to voice their ideas, beliefs, and opinions in the conversation on how interpersonal violence should be addressed as a medical and health issue. We aim to provide a safe and structured format for raising awareness and generating discussion about interpersonal violence medical and health issues that are of importance to students and reduce stigma around these topics.

CORE WORK:

The main activity of this group is to plan an annual one-day meeting/conference. Activities may involve seminars, panel presentations, speaker series, workshops, working groups, or other similar activities. Members may also engage in research on interpersonal violence as a medical/health issue and conduct literature reviews or reach out to subject matter experts for more information.

VALUES AND BELIEFS:

1. We believe that medical students have a role in learning how to address interpersonal violence as a medical and health issue.
2. We believe in advocating for interpersonal violence education that is balanced and represents victims of all genders.
3. We believe in advocating for interpersonal violence education that addresses the health and care of people affected by violence, including people who are victimized and people who perpetrate violence.
4. We believe that medical students should be able to learn and work in safe environments, free of abuse and interpersonal violence.
5. We believe in the importance of employing trauma-informed approaches in medical education based on current best practices.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE:

