



## **The American Society of Hematology Commitment Statement on Clinician Well-Being and Resilience**

The mission of the American Society of Hematology (ASH), to help hematologists conquer blood diseases worldwide, cannot be accomplished without a strong workforce of clinicians, researchers, and other members of the health care team. These collaborators engage in fundamental and clinical research, translate their discoveries to patient care, and use insights in caring for patients as the basis for new directions in research. Well-being is a critical factor in the strength of this workforce, and the Society is committed to help hematologists address the myriad factors impacting well-being (institutional leadership, resilience building, administrative and regulatory burdens, and others) through interventions such as openly addressing burnout in live meetings and in publications, advocating on behalf of hematologists to streamline administrative work, and sharing approaches to building resilience among hematologists. For example, the Society's 2017 annual meeting featured:

- **ASH Practice Partnership Session on Physician Stress and Burnout**

The ASH Practice Partnership is the Society's network of practice-based hematologists with interests in practice-related policies, quality of care, new health care delivery systems, and practice management issues. During this session, speakers addressed the problem of physician burnout and focused on sustainability, proposing coping methods, and potential solutions.

- **ASH White Board Wall on Resilience**

At the white board wall, skilled artists interacted with meeting participants to extract stories of how hematologists and hematologic researchers build resilience in their daily lives. The artists illustrated these stories on the white board to share with the 26,000 participants at the meeting. Photographs of these images will create an enduring resource which ASH will share with the hematology community at large.

The ASH Committee on Educational Affairs and the ASH Committee on Practice have both been actively engaged in developing programming for the Society to address well-being and will continue to do so for 2018 and beyond. Plans include extending efforts to address resilience building in hematology trainees, addressing the topic of institutional leadership to reverse burnout, supporting substantial changes to the maintenance of certification process to eliminate low value administrative work, and advocating for policy changes to reduce regulatory burden. Future efforts might include surveying hematologists to develop a benchmark on burnout in the subspecialty.

### **About the American Society of Hematology**

With a membership of over 17,000 individuals, the American Society of Hematology ([www.hematology.org](http://www.hematology.org)) is the world's largest professional society of hematologists dedicated to furthering the understanding, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disorders affecting the blood. For more than 50 years, the Society has led the development of hematology as a discipline by promoting research, patient care, education, training, and advocacy in hematology. ASH publishes *Blood* ([www.bloodjournal.org](http://www.bloodjournal.org)), the most cited peer-reviewed publication in the field, which is available weekly in print and online. In 2016, ASH launched *Blood Advances* ([www.bloodadvances.org](http://www.bloodadvances.org)), an online, peer-reviewed open-access journal.