Resolution 10

TOPIC: IN SUPPORT OF EDUCATION ABOUT ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE AND ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMS

SUBMITTED BY: Duquesne University Student Nurses’ Association, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

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WHEREAS, in 2013, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that there had been approximately two million people in the United States infected with bacteria that are resistant to at least one antibiotic and approximately 23,000 deaths reported that were linked directly to antibiotic-resistant infections; and

WHEREAS, antimicrobial resistance occurs when a microorganism becomes resistant to an antimicrobial medicine to which it was once vulnerable, which allows its survival rate to increase in comparison to other microorganism; and

WHEREAS, *Clostridium difficile*, Carbapenem-resistant *enterobacteriaceae*, and drug-resistant *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* are bacteria that have been determined to have reached critical threat level; and

WHEREAS, antimicrobial resistance, which is critically influenced by antimicrobials used in excess and inappropriately, stems from misuse in agriculture, and the prescribing of antibiotics with inappropriate indications; and

WHEREAS, antimicrobial Stewardship Programs aim to ensure the use of the most appropriate agent, right dose, and duration when giving medications. It aims to increase pathogen-directed therapy to give more specific coverage when the situation is warranted; and

WHEREAS, at the hospital, the nurse is the center of the interdisciplinary communication and is also a communicator to the family and patient. The nurse gives the patient information from the health care providers, educates about the medications to be taken, and provides education on the appropriate use of these medications; and

WHEREAS, antimicrobial Stewardship Programs and their efficiency would be improved by the nurse as the nurse has a central role in the interdisciplinary team and its communication; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the National Student Nurses’ Association (NSNA) encourage nursing programs to include information in their curricula on antimicrobial resistance and nurses’ vital role in antimicrobial stewardship programs as a communicator with the interdisciplinary team and the patient; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the NSNA educate nursing students on antimicrobial resistance in the form of a
session at the MidYear Conference or the Annual Convention, if feasible; and be it
further

RESOLVED, that the NSNA publish an article in *Imprint*, if feasible, to educate its constituents about
the overuse of antibiotics, and increase in antimicrobial resistance along with the
nurse’s role in Antimicrobial Stewardship Programs and educating patients; and be it
further

RESOLVED, that the NSNA send a copy of this resolution to the American Nurses Association,
National League for Nursing, American Association of Colleges of Nursing, Organization
for Associate Degree Nursing, National Council of State Boards of Nursing, and all others
deemed appropriate by the NSNA Board of Directors.