

## Statement on Freedom of Science, Immigration, and Health Care

The undersigned scientific societies take a stand in support of health care and the scientific method, and against proposed travel bans.

In detail,

- 1) The signatories believe healthcare is a basic human right.
- 2) The signatories are deeply concerned about the potential impact on the delivery of clinical services if the Affordable Care Act is repealed without a suitable replacement that guarantees:
  - a) access to affordable healthcare for all;
  - b) no exclusions or penalties for pre-existing conditions;
  - c) protection and enforcement of mental health parity;
- 3) As organizations promoting scholarship and its application to health, signatories are concerned about the current contempt for facts, attacks on expertise, and rejection of science .
- 4) They urge their members to participate in the March for Science on April 22, 2017, and will make a concerted effort to participate as organizations.
- 5) In the name of the free flow of ideas and people demanded by science, and to avoid compounding the stress and trauma already experienced by populations at risk for discrimination, the signatories oppose restriction on travel to the US beyond current already stringent regulations.

In addition, the signatories endorse a statement against the travel ban that has already been signed by at least 180 other professional organizations and educational institutions (see <https://mcmprodaaas.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/Multisociety%20Letter%20on%20Immigration%201-31-2017.pdf>) .

*American Psychosomatic Society (APS)*

*Academy of Behavioral Medicine Research (ABMR)*

*PsychoNeuroImmunology Research Society (PNIRS)*

*Society of Behavioral Medicine (SBM)*