



Montana Osteopathic Medical Association, Winter 2020 newsletter

Hello again from MOMA, the organization that continues to promote the distinctiveness of Osteopathic medicine in Montana. On the national level, there have been some great efforts by the AOA to continue to affect the practice of medicine in this country in a very positive way. Last July, the AOA house of delegates voted, and I think being there, unanimously adopted a resolution concerning Osteopathic board certification for all specialties. To quote part of this resolution (H-220): **Whereas, the AOA Board of Trustees (BOT) adopted a resolution at its 2019 mid-year meeting intending to create two pathways, one with osteopathic principles and practice (specialty) and the traditional pathway including osteopathic principles and practice, as well as test items on OMM/OMT; and Whereas, confusion exists regarding the intent of the BOT, now, therefore be it Resolved, that the AOA: 1. Reaffirms its commitment to the inclusion of osteopathic principles and practice in every osteopathic board certification examination, regardless of specialty; 2. Continues the opportunity for osteopathic certifying boards to develop and administer OMM/OMT practical examinations which are specific and appropriate for their specialty; 3. Allows a requirement for specialty-specific content in CME for re-certification/continuing certification; and 4. Continues to encourage the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education to include an osteopathic educational component in Osteopathic Recognized residencies.**

So, what does this mean for the profession? I refer you to the back (second) page of this newsletter for MOMA's communication to our speakers at our CME. In the opinion of many of us that are actively involved in promoting the distinctiveness of Osteopathic medicine, it has allowed us to go beyond the procedure of OMM/OMT, which we all know is a window into Osteopathic principles, to include in our structured training all efforts to encourage and incorporate the principles of Osteopathic medicine in all patient care. I can bore you with countless examples of all health care providers believing in this patient approach, but other accreditation entities do not have the ability to make this education a formal part of all specialty certification, at least outside of their specific specialty. I can tell you that there certainly is support for this at the new MD/DO single GME accreditation entity, ACGME, to not lose this approach to patient care, both by the DO's that are now part of ACGME administration, but by MD's there that recognize how this can have a positive influence on the practice of medicine in this country. This chance will not last forever, our profession must be proactive in developing this. And no one, DO/MD/allied health professions argue with Osteopathic principles. MOMA will continue to do all we can to promote this, thru our CME and otherwise.

So, 1) it's not too late to send your MOMA dues for the July, 2019 to June, 2020 dues year by going to our website www.mtosteopaths.com (newly formatted) and download the dues form on the membership tab. Your support will go a long way to help us in our efforts here in Montana, 2) Our CME (MOMA Primary Care Roundup) is August 13-16, 2020-see details on our website, and 3) Please consider support of the Northwest Osteopathic Medical Foundation (a link to NWOMF is on our website) in their efforts to support Osteopathic medicine thru DO student scholarships, support of the 5 NW states, including Montana, and other activities. I'm out of one page of space but will do another newsletter in June 2020 and wish you the best in your practice, family, and enjoying what the great state of Montana has to offer.

Don Grewell, DO, executive director, MOMA



Principles of Osteopathic Medicine

- The body is a unit; the person is a unit of body, mind, and spirit.
- The body is capable of self-regulation, self-healing, and health maintenance.
- Structure and function are reciprocally interrelated.
- Rational treatment is based upon an understanding of the basic principles of body unity, self-regulation, and the interrelationship of structure and function.

The Tenets of Osteopathic Medicine express the underlying philosophy of osteopathic medicine and were approved by the AOA House of Delegates as policy.

Thank you for your time adding to our educational experience at MOMA's annual CME. This note is intended to explain why we are sending the above tenants of Osteopathic medicine. As you can see, these tenants are just good patient care, and all physicians, DO or MD (or other providers) strive to find the least invasive, most effective care that involves the patient themselves, and does not overwhelm the *body's* ability to heal itself. When the Osteopathic profession's CME was to an audience that not only were taught this in medical school, but most GME (graduate medical education) was in Osteopathic institutions, and CME programs required at least 50 % DO speakers, this structured emphasis was easily apparent as part of the educational experience. But now that more and more GME has been done in ACGME (MD) programs, and all GME will be ACGME by July, 2020 with the AOA/ACGME single accreditation pathway started in 2015, this focus can no longer be taken for granted. And anyone involved in this process understands that this focus should continue to be a structured part of any medical education, or it tends to be lost. With this in mind, what we are asking of you is simply keeping this in the background when presenting a talk. If you are not a primary care provider, this may mean only providing examples/cases that you have encountered where someone in primary care or another specialty did too much unnecessary work up and care that overwhelmed the body's own ability to take care of itself; and with the greater knowledge base you have in your discipline you were able to simplify care and not over treat. As we all know, there are countless examples of this, particularly in the care provided in this country. The more we can structure this into our education, the more this focus **will** continue to influence the practice of medicine in a positive way. We thank you for considering this and all of your time contributing to our education.

Don Grewell, DO, Program Director