



Special Feature:

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Compassionate Care by the Book

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ACOinfo
American College of Osteopathic Internists

September
2023



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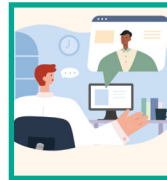
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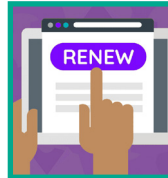
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The “Triple Threat”

Welcome to September—the month deriving its name from the Latin word for seven, “Septimus.” In 153 BCE when the Roman senate decided to change their calendar to coincide with the lunar calendar, it became the ninth month of the year, but the name remained.

September represents the season of change where my summer memories are in the rear-view mirror, yet I am not ready for the long, cold, dark winter ahead (at least in my part of the world). Living in New Jersey allows me to experience the true changing of the seasons—the crisp fall air, the multicolored foliage of the trees lining even some of the busiest streets and highways, and of course, the ever-popular pumpkin spice everything.

Whether you call it fall or autumn or harvest, it represents a time for transformations both personal and environmental. Enthusiasm for all things autumnal is driven in part by a strong association with positive emotions and memories. Think of memories of Halloween costumes and Thanksgiving family celebrations. The first day of fall was Saturday, September 23—the same day as the autumn equinox in the Northern Hemisphere—which is experienced by 90 percent of the world’s population.

As you prepare for the upcoming season, the physician in you has to prepare for the onslaught of patients needing your help. We are entering the seasons where respiratory illness will appear wreaking havoc on our already stressed health care systems.

The “Triple Threat”—COVID-19, influenza, and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)—as it has become known, looms large.

Early in the COVID-19 pandemic, surges of other infections like flu and RSV were below normal levels, likely because of precautions put into place to mitigate COVID-19 illness. Health experts have warned about a “triple-demic” as masking and other measures are not in play as much as before. State and local officials are urging everyone who is eligible to get vaccinated against COVID-19, influenza, and RSV as soon as vaccines become available.

The approach “flu before boo,” getting vaccinated before Halloween, is a good way to share this information with your patients and make it fit in with the upcoming seasonal events in their lives.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) recommendations are readily available on their website. The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved the new COVID-19 booster, and the CDC has outlined their recommendations for its use. The new booster targets the XBB.1.5 omicron variant, the dominant summer strain, but will still protect against the newer variants. All persons aged six months and older, regardless of medical history, are recommended to receive this newest booster. This year’s flu vaccine is available now and is recommended for all individuals aged six months and above, ideally during September or October. My patients seem more receptive this year to the idea.

Adults aged 60 and above are recommended to receive the new vaccine against RSV. A single dose provides moderate to high efficacy in preventing symptomatic RSV-associated lower respiratory tract disease.



RSV season usually starts in October so getting it as soon as possible will provide the most protection. The message is simple. The best vaccine is the one in your arm. Immunization against these respiratory infections is to help protect yourself against severe illness, hospitalization, and even death. COVID vaccines also reduce the chance of having Long COVID. In addition to the health benefits for yourself, vaccines do indeed reduce transmission to others.

There is no recommended waiting period between getting a COVID-19 vaccine and other vaccines. You can get the COVID-19 vaccine and the flu vaccine at the same visit—one in each arm. Because the RSV vaccine is so new, it is reasonable to have a two-week interval before receiving it.

If you have not been vaccinated yet, you can start now and be protected before Halloween, “flu before boo.”

Hope to see you soon in Tampa at the [ACOI 2023 Annual Convention & Scientific Sessions](#).

Joanne Kaiser-Smith, DO, FACOI
president@acoi.org



DOs Doing Good: Dr. Anya Cope Teaches Compassionate Care by the Book

by Gina Kilker



Growing up in the tiny unincorporated Appalachian community of Dryden, Virginia, Anya Cope, DO, FACOI, says it wasn't the kind of place that provided ample career inspiration for her or other young people in her community. Like many others in the

area, her father mined coal. She said while some of her peers went into nursing or teaching, there were many others that sold drugs on the streets. "There weren't a lot of people in our area who were going into medicine," she says.

Yet in the sixth grade, she somehow found her own inspiration within her community—at her school's book fair. From an ordinary event, something extraordinary happened to her and it helped her realize that she had different dreams. She decided that she wanted to become a physician.

"It's not every day that people can say that a book fair changed their life," she says. At the book fair, Dr. Cope was drawn to a book that featured an illustration on the cover of a little girl sitting on a hospital bed holding a teddy bear. The little girl had been diagnosed with cancer and the book detailed her story as a child facing a frightening health journey ahead. Some of the doctors portrayed in the book were kind and empathetic, while others lacked warmth.

"The book demonstrated how a compassionate provider can make a difference. It was then that I decided I was going to be a pediatric oncologist," she recalls.

While she eventually switched gears to pursue internal medicine, she hasn't forgotten the impression the book left and how it guided her to be the kind of doctor who puts compassion first. It started her on the path to becoming an osteopathic physician.

Staying in Appalachia to Make a Difference

As a young adult, she thoroughly embraced small town life and happily stayed close to the rural community that was familiar to her. She chose to attend the University of Virginia's only branch campus in the tiny town of Wise, Virginia, in the southwestern corner of the state, just 30 miles from her hometown. While the geographic setting felt familiar—a rural community surrounded by the Appalachian Mountains—attending the University opened doors to a new world.

Dr. Cope says she chose history as her major knowing that in medical school she would be immersed in math and science curricula. "It was funny because I took most of my courses in European history and most of my papers were on the Black Death and the Plague, so I still somehow incorporated medicine!"

As an undergraduate, while preparing to apply to medical school, she began shadowing Maurice Nida, DO, FACOI, at Norton Community Hospital, in Norton, Virginia, a facility that serves southwestern Virginia and southeastern Kentucky. That was where she learned about A.T. Still and osteopathic medicine.

"I loved the DO philosophy of taking care of the whole patient, so I didn't even apply to any MD programs.

Plus, it was an easy choice to stay close to home and learn in the mountains in the Appalachian region," she said. She eventually attended Pikeville College School of Osteopathic Medicine in Pikeville, Kentucky (now the Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine) just two hours from Dryden.

Today, Dr. Cope is still in the Appalachian region, influencing the next generation of osteopathic internists. She is the Associate Dean of Clinical Affairs and an Associate Professor of Internal Medicine at Lincoln Memorial University-DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine (LMU-DCOM) in Harrogate, Tennessee, a community of just over 4,000 people, where she oversees clinical rotations for nearly 750 of LMU-DCOM's OMS III and IV students. Staying rural, she believes, has fueled her passion for working with rural students with backgrounds like her own. She understands how many of them, like herself, didn't have many role models growing up and weren't aware of the opportunities that were possible for their futures.

"You can't be what you can't see," she says. "It's really important to show local students that there are options for them, how to get there, and to let them know that they can achieve big things!"

In her role Dr. Cope works with academic institutions in Appalachia through partnership programs to target the "rural underserved." Her mission is to help pave a clear path for students who meet certain criteria to get into medical school. She also delights in dispelling myths about becoming a physician. One such myth is that one must earn a science degree to pursue medical school.

Continued





DOs Doing Good: Dr. Anya Cope

(Continued)

She says her degree in history makes her “a shining example that that doesn’t have to happen.”

When speaking to students, she urges them to seek opportunities to shadow physicians and perform volunteer hours to gain a clearer picture as to what working in medicine is like. She thinks students need to focus their time and energy on perfecting the skills they already enjoy and excel in. Additionally, she believes that having a mentor is crucial to provide guidance, especially as students struggle to prioritize their time.

She wants students to know something she didn’t—that they have options. “I didn’t know that you could take the MCAT multiple times or that there were prep courses. Mentors can provide information to students who are in a similar boat that I was in.” She says that the partnership programs she is now involved in are designed to open a world of possibilities for students to help them understand their options and how to accomplish their goals.

She also wants students to learn to provide care from a place of compassion. Dr. Cope says that her ingrained values from small town rural living are the reason she’s always preferred to stay in familiar territory. “Living in rural Appalachia and the experiences that I’ve had thus far have really helped me understand that all humans bring value to the table, and that we need to accept that in everything that we do and acknowledge that in all settings.”

Just like the theme of the children’s book that started it all at the book fair, Dr. Cope still lives by the value that kindness matters, even beyond caring for patients in the traditional sense.

When Dr. Cope found out from one of her elderly patients that she was looking forward to an upcoming family party but didn’t have a dress for the event, Dr. Cope gave her one of hers. “She was going to go to a thrift store to find one, but I gave her my dress to wear instead. She was so tearful and thankful. One would have thought I gave her a new car!” That simple kind act made a lasting impression. When the patient eventually passed away years later, Dr. Cope received a message from her son letting her know what a positive impact she had made on his mother and how much it meant to their entire family.

Yet the impact of practicing medicine in rural areas and training future DOs to stay and serve in their rural communities exudes another sort of kindness. According to the US government, 80 percent of rural America is considered “medically underserved.” In [a recent study](#) it was discovered that the number of primary care doctors in rural counties dropped between 2010 and 2017 while small and large metro areas had relatively little change. [As a result](#), Americans who live in rural areas die at higher rates from heart disease, cancer, chronic lower respiratory disease, and stroke than those living in urban areas, due in part, to having less accessibility to doctors.

While she didn’t follow her original vision of working with pediatric oncology patients, Dr. Cope is still living the dream she set forth that day long ago when she was in the sixth grade. By staying in the communities that are experiencing the most need for care she may be exercising the biggest act of kindness of all.

Future generations are learning about osteopathic medicine from a fellow rural American that learned about A.T. Still’s principles Dr. Nida insisted a young Dr. Cope learn on her first day of shadowing him when she was still an undergraduate.

She recalls that his first comment to her was, “Anya, tell me where Andrew Taylor Still was born.” When she replied that she didn’t know, he told her that if she wanted to come back tomorrow and shadow him that she needed to find out. She did just that and the next day reported back to Dr. Nida that A.T. Still was born in Jonesville, Virginia—the very same county where both she and Dr. Nida are from.

And, as far as the infamous book is concerned that she bought at the book fair all those years ago, she still has it today and flips through it occasionally. One could say that even after all this time, Dr. Cope still does things by the book.

[Continue reading on our blog to read about Dr. Cope’s journey from student to active member and how she gives back.](#)



Countdown to Tampa

Damon L. Baker, DO, FACOI, Annual Convention Chair

ACOI 2023 October 11-14
Tampa • Hybrid

Three Criteria that Make a Great Convention Destination and How Tampa Meets Them All



You can always count on ACOI to carefully select a fantastic Annual Convention destination with lots to do, and Tampa is a winner this fall during ACOI 2023, October 11-14.

What's important to you when it comes to an Annual Convention destination? For me a great destination encompasses these three things:

1. Ease of access. We are all busy. Our schedules are extremely demanding and like you, I appreciate accessibility and how easy a destination is to reach.

Tampa fills that bill easily. It is easy to get to from US destinations, yet it feels like a million miles from my everyday surroundings.

2. Quality of the hotel. While we can always count on the hotel to be comfortable and attractive, this year we have **two Marriott properties**, each a stone's throw from the other.

- The Tampa Marriott Water Street in downtown Tampa has been recently renovated and is connected to the JW Marriott Tampa Water Street via a glass skybridge on the third floor. You can visit the rooftop pool between sessions and enjoy the city and water views from high above!

- The JW Marriott Tampa Water Street offers a touch of luxury and like its sister property, the hotel is adjacent to the Tampa Riverwalk and other attractions nearby. Between the two properties, there are six dining outlets so plenty of places to meet up with your ACOI colleagues you haven't seen in a while.

3. Exploration potential. The last criteria for me when thinking about the Annual Convention destination are the activities and restaurants to explore outside the hotel experience. Again, Tampa fills the bill that way too.

- The Welcome Reception will tempt us to explore beyond the hotels since it is being held at The Florida Aquarium, on the Riverwalk just steps away from our Annual Convention site. Find time to explore all the Riverwalk has to offer! If you like to be on the water, rent jet skis or check out all the boat rental options of every size right outside the hotels.
- Many of us like to take a stroll and do a little culinary exploration to find some of the best restaurants in the areas around the Annual Convention. With a variety of rooftop bars and some classic restaurants that have been Tampa favorites for years, as well as newer eateries, you'll find plenty of choices.
- I know a lot of us like to bring our families to the Annual Convention. In fact, I've met many of my colleagues' spouses and children over the years at our various gatherings, so I know "family-friendly fun" is important when it comes to exploration potential! Busch Gardens Tampa Bay is a great destination with amusement rides, zoo animals, live shows, and lots of family fun. For more ideas on what to do check out our special Visit Tampa Bay website.

I know that some of you can't be there in person, so please choose our virtual option. It is the next best way to experience all that ACOI 2023 offers. But if you can make it to Tampa, do it! It's going to be one of our best events ever and one you won't want to pass you by.

I hope to see you in person in Tampa for ACOI 2023! If you haven't already, register today.





Mentoring is Good for Wellness

Jordan Sexe, DO

My name is Jordan Sexe, DO, and I am a new member on the ACOI Physician Wellbeing Committee, representing residents and fellows. I just finished internal medicine residency at the University of Texas at Tyler and have just started a cardiology fellowship at the same hospital. I have been very involved with the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association and I'm excited to become involved with ACOI.

During my intern year in 2020, I had just moved from Mississippi to Texas and was about to start my internship. Though I was extremely busy with work and the mysteries that came early in the pandemic, the weekends were occupied with unfulfillment. I felt like I needed to find something outside of medicine to make me feel "like a regular person."

I came across an advertisement for a local non-profit organization that sought to match mentors with local youth. Many of the youth were referred from local schools, courts, or just needed a role model.

I was soon matched with a local high schooler who was a rising star on his tennis team. Hanging out with him at arcades on the weekend and attending his tennis matches was a blast for both of us. As we came to know each other more personally, I realized that the things which stressed me out (seemingly never-ending work hours, studying for boards, etc.) were not even close to the things that were stressing him out.

This past summer, he graduated from high school and has just started college. Proud is an understatement. The week before he started college, I was very inquisitive about his new town, his new college, and how he planned to relax after classes. After going through college, medical school, residency, and now starting in fellowship, I've learned firsthand the importance of having a way to escape from stress.

Aside from the perspective that mentoring has taught me, it has made me realize I've worked seemingly non-stop for the past 11 years to get the job I have now. It seemed silly that I came this far just to be stressed all the time. It made me realize that sometimes I need to take a step back and look at the big picture; I get to be at the patient's bedside during one of the toughest times of their life and I get to use my brain and hands in a way that most people cannot. It also made me realize I should "practice what I preach" and wholeheartedly commit to devoting time towards relaxing and recharging outside of medicine.

Wellness Corner

ACOI members identify dealing with stressors as the most critical issue facing them today. Each month we'll share an idea a member shared with us on how they work to promote their own wellness.

"Educating myself on the issues and understanding these issues are influenced by forces that need strategic influence and not brute force to change."

**Have a suggestion of your own?
Email us at katie@acoi.org.**



ACOI Member News

Dr. Kellee Randle Publishes Self-Care Book



Kellee Randle, DO, FACOI, has seen many patients dismiss the need for practicing self-care because they believe they are too busy caring for others to pay attention to themselves. In her just-published book, “Your Mask First, Finding Peace, Light and Encouragement Through Self-Care,”

Dr. Randle provides bite-sized reminders and advice accompanied by bible verses that support the premise of the book. With sections that focus on a variety of topics, including mental health, stress, nutrition, self-esteem, advocacy, and more, the book emphasizes empowerment for women with room within the book to write journal entries associated with prompt questions throughout.

In addition to practicing osteopathic internal medicine and writing books, Dr. Randle, is a national speaker and an entrepreneur. Through her company Equity Ventures Plus LLC, she speaks about diversity, equity, and inclusion, to groups all over the country, including patient groups, C-suite executives, physician groups within various health care systems, and others who want to learn about implicit bias.

The printed book and Kindle version are available on Amazon or by [visiting her website](#).



Dr. Bratzler Receives KCU Alumni Award

The KCU Alumni Association awarded Dale W. Bratzler, DO, MPH, FACOI, the 2023 Alumni Service Award. This award honors a KCU graduate who exemplifies the KCU mission of “improving the communities we serve” through volunteerism, research, community activism, and/or thought leadership. Congratulations, Dr. Bratzler!





Government RELATIONS

Timothy W. McNichol, JD, and Camille Bonta



ACOI Asks CMS and Congress for Medicare Physician Payment Cut Relief

The ACOI has [submitted comments](#) to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in response to proposed 2024 payment policies. In the letter, ACOI re-stated its concerns about Medicare payments that do not keep pace with inflation. ACOI encourages its members to [take action](#) by contacting their members of Congress and asking them to provide physicians with an inflation adjustment tied to the Medicare Economic Index (MEI). The inflation update for physicians is statutorily set at zero through 2025.

In the CY 2024 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule proposed rule, CMS announced a 3.36 percent physician payment cut. Much of the cut is due to requirements of budget neutrality triggered by the proposed implementation of office/outpatient evaluation and management (E/M) visit complexity add-on code G2211 beginning January 1, 2024.

CMS estimates a utilization assumption of 38 percent in 2024 when G2211 takes effect. ACOI encouraged CMS to revisit its assumption and make its methodology transparent.

If CMS were to lower its assumption on the use of G2211, it would likely temper the cut to physician payments.

In the letter, ACOI also asked CMS to:

- Use every policy lever available to reduce the proposed budget neutrality reduction for physician services in 2024 and to close the gap between the Medicare physician payment update and the rising cost of practicing medicine.
- Finalize its decision to not incorporate new data for physician fee schedule rate setting next year until practice information data collection efforts currently underway by the American Medical Association are complete.
- Keep the process of valuing physician services in the hands of the American Medical Association/Specialty Society Relative Value Scale Update Committee.
- Adopt new CPT guidance that would allow physicians or qualified health professionals to report split or shared visits based on time or medical decision-making rather than just based on more than half the total time as previously finalized by CMS.
- Maintain separate payment for the CPT codes for audio-only E/M visits through at least 2024.
- Finalize its proposal to allow through December 31, 2024, a teaching physician to have a virtual presence in all teaching settings, but limited to clinical instances when the service is furnished virtually.
- Finalize its proposals to pause implementation of the Appropriate Use Criteria (AUC) Program for advanced diagnostic imaging and rescind the current AUC program regulations.
- Finalize its proposal to extend the at-home vaccine administration payment to all Part B preventive vaccines.
- Finalize its proposal to add the Hemoglobin A1C (HbA1c) test to the types of diabetes screening tests covered by Medicare and expand frequency limitations for diabetes screening to twice within a rolling 12-month period. ACOI also supported CMS' proposals to improve access to diabetes self-management training services.
- Reduce the threat of payment penalties for Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS)-eligible clinicians by maintaining the MIPS performance threshold at 75 rather than increase it to 82 points for the CY 2024 performance period.

Federal Government on the Brink of Shutdown: Will Physicians Be Paid?

With little hope for a deal on Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 spending before October 1, a federal government shutdown is increasingly likely unless Senate and House lawmakers can agree on a temporary funding patch, also known as a continuing resolution (CR), to keep the government operating while final spending levels are negotiated.

On September 18, members of the House hard-right Freedom Caucus and the Main Street Caucus announced a deal on a [continuing resolution](#) that would extend current funding through October 31. That deal would cut 8.1 percent from all non-defense spending accounts except for the Department of Veterans Affairs and disaster relief.

Continued





Democrats are unlikely to support a continuing resolution that cuts discretionary spending and includes controversial provisions that relate to immigration and border security. Some Republican hard-liners have also indicated they will oppose the agreement. Even if the CR passes the House, it does not have a chance for passage in the Senate as currently drafted.

The last time the government shut down was in FY2019 which was also the longest government shutdown at 35 days. That shutdown had no impact on Medicare and Medicaid at the federal level. If the government shuts down, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), as well as other departments and agencies, will issue contingency plans that will detail which agency activities are legally authorized to continue during a lapse in appropriations. HHS last updated its contingency plan in July which states that in the absence of appropriations, 40 percent of HHS employees will be furloughed.

A government shutdown, depending on how long it persists, could have a significant impact on grant-related activities, including grants funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). During the 2018 shutdown, patient care at the NIH continued but there was minimal support for ongoing protocols and new enrollment in clinical trials was paused. At the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), support continued to protect the health and well-being of U.S. citizens, although at significantly reduced capacity to respond to outbreak investigations and maintain the agency's emergency operations center.

Senate Committee Advances Workforce Bill

The Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee (HELP) advanced a bill, the Bipartisan Primary Care and Health Workforce Act (S. 2840), that would invest \$26 billion in community health centers, and the doctor, nursing and dentist workforces. The bill advanced in the Democratic controlled committee with the support of three Republicans and is unlikely to advance as written in the House. HELP Ranking Member Bill Cassidy (R-LA), a physician, opposed the bill on the basis that the cost of the bill circumvented budget agreements made between Congress and the White House and lacked provisions to offset the costs of the bill. The bill moves \$1 billion from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Public Health Fund to help pay for the bill, a move that Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), an appropriator, criticized because it would mean less money for important programs, including immunization and tobacco-control activities. The federal Community Health Center Fund expires on September 30, 2023, the end of the current fiscal year.

The legislation also would prohibit hospitals from billing insurers or patients' facility fees for evaluation and management (E/M) or outpatient behavioral services when a patient receives care in a hospital-owned doctor's office. ACOI will continue to closely monitor this legislation.

Washington Tidbit

The Golden Gavel

When in session, the Senate is presided over by the Vice President of the United States or the president pro tempore. Tradition dictates that the senior most member of the majority party serves as the president pro tempore. Unlike the vice president, the president pro tempore cannot break a tie vote. When absent, the president pro tempore designates a junior member to preside in one- or two-hour shifts, which provides the opportunity to learn the Senate rules and procedures.

In recognition of this important role and to promote interest in providing service, Majority Leader Mike Mansfield established the Golden Gavel Award in 1967 to recognize those who serve for 100 or more hours. While traditionally awarded to senators for their service, honorary golden gavels were presented to Chief Justices William Rehnquist and John Roberts for their service of presiding over the impeachment trials of then Presidents Bill Clinton and Donald Trump, respectively.





ACOI Urges you to Register for AACOM's Advocacy Day

The American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) is inviting ACOI members to [register](#) and participate in on October 17 and 18!

By participating in this free, virtual event, you'll have the opportunity to hear first-hand from congressional and government relations professionals on the state of Congress, effective advocacy and osteopathic priorities. You'll also be able to communicate with members of Congress in support of policies and programs critical to osteopathic medical students, physicians and schools. The tentative agenda will be:

October 17: 2 hours, approximately 1:00 - 3:00 PM ET. Congressional speaker and informational panels.

October 18: 2 hours, subject to your schedule. Congressional meetings and grassroots advocacy.

Don't miss this opportunity to promote the osteopathic profession to Congress. Show your support by [registering](#) today!

#AACOMADVOCATES

AACOM ADVOCACY DAY 2023

Raise your voice to support
osteopathic medical education!

OCTOBER 17-18, 2023



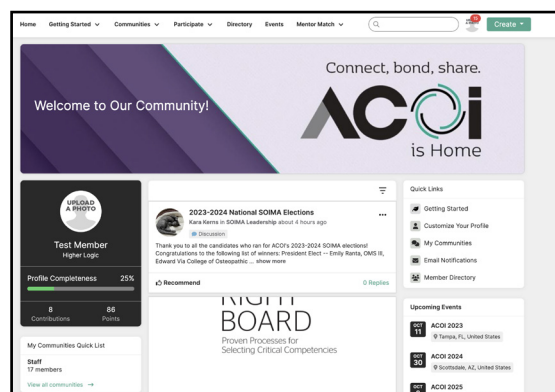
ACOI Communities—Now Open!

Introducing ACOI Communities, a new online platform created exclusively for our members.

On this easy-to-use platform, you'll be able to join discussions, connect with other members, sign up as a mentor, and more.

To support the launch of ACOI Communities and improve security, ACOI has developed a new User Dashboard where you can update your information, pay dues, access benefits, and more.

The best part is that as an ACOI member, your account is already active.



Ready to get started?

Step 1: Login to the new [User Dashboard](#).

Login with your existing ACOI Online Learning Center (OLC) account credentials. If you don't have a password, click on [Forgot your password](#). Once you're logged in, scroll down to **Community & Education** and click on **ACOI Communities**.

Step 2: Update your profile information.

Click on the **Upload a Photo** icon to add a photo and update your profile.

Step 3: Start posting!

On the top navigation, click on **Communities** and then **My Communities**. Select **Member Discussion Group**. Find a thread that you'd like to read and reply or post a new message.

If you need help, check out the **Getting Started** page for videos and tutorials.

Take a look around and don't be shy—this community is for you!



Renew Your Membership Now

The ACOI dues for the membership year of July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, are now available to pay. You can [renew online](#) or by mail using the invoice that was recently mailed to you.

Thank You for Renewing

ACOI provides leadership, networking, and education to help our members be successful and stay true to why they pursued medicine. We recently mailed out a [brochure](#) which highlights what we've done over the last year. We would love to hear your feedback on this mailing!

We Value YOU!

ACOI is the premier community for osteopathic internal medicine and subspecialist physicians because of members like **you**. Your support directly builds innovating educational programs that make a difference in osteopathic medicine. Thank you for all you do. We look forward to serving you this year.

If you have any questions about membership, please contact Neena at neena@acoi.org.



Upcoming ACOI Events

ACOI 2023

October 11-14
Tampa • Hybrid



2023 Annual Convention & Scientific Sessions

October 11-14

Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel, Tampa, FL | Hybrid

[Add to Outlook](#) | [Add to Apple Calendar](#) | [Add to Google Calendar](#)

REGISTER NOW

2024 Annual Convention & Scientific Sessions

October 30-November 3

Kierland Resort, Scottsdale, AZ

[Add to Outlook](#) | [Add to Apple Calendar](#) | [Add to Google Calendar](#)

2025 Annual Convention & Scientific Sessions

October 8-12

JW Marriott Marco Island Resort, Marco Island, FL

[Add to Outlook](#) | [Add to Apple Calendar](#) | [Add to Google Calendar](#)

Please note: It is an ACOI membership requirement that Active Members attend an ACOI-sponsored continuing education program at least once every three years.

The ACOI wishes to thank all Members for their annual support for the College. Their generous support is of the utmost importance as we seek to maintain an osteopathic approach to internal medicine for future generations of patients.

\$75,000+

Lawrence U. Haspel, DO, MACOI

\$50,000+

Martin C. Burke, DO, FACOI

\$25,000 - \$44,999

Rick A. Greco, DO, MACOI and Carol A. Greco, DO

Robert J. Stomel, DO, MACOI

\$15,000 - \$24,999

John B. Bulger, DO, MBA, FACOI and Michele Neff Bulger, DO

Robert G. Good, DO, MACOI and Brenda Good

David F. Hitzeman, DO, MACOI and Rita Hitzeman

Judith A. Lightfoot, DO, FACOI and Alvin Banks

\$10,000 - \$14,999

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