

## Fact Sheet, 2015

- Osteopathic medicine is a complete system of medical care with the philosophy of **treating the whole person, not just symptoms**. It emphasizes the interrelationship of structure and function, and the appreciation of the body's ability to heal itself.
  - Last year, the Ohio Osteopathic Association (OOA) celebrated its **115th anniversary**. The association is active in health care legislation, regulatory matters, and public health initiatives. The OOA is one of five founding members of the Ohio Health Information Partnership (CliniSync), which is helping 6,500 primary care providers implement electronic health records in Ohio and building a statewide Health Information Exchange.
  - There are **4,605 licensed DOs in Ohio**, which is about 12 percent of the state's physician population. Of family physicians in Ohio, 26 percent are DOs. *(Source: Ohio State Medical Board)*
  - Nationwide, there are more than **82,500 DOs** in active practice who collectively treat more than **100 million patients** annually.
  - Osteopathic physicians are more likely to be **primary care** physicians, provide direct patient care, and practice in rural areas and physician shortage areas. *(Source: Ohio Board of Regents)*
  - **Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine (OU-HCOM)** in Athens was established in 1975 by the Ohio General Assembly, which specified the college would train family physicians for underserved areas of the state. Today, more than half of OU-HCOM graduates practice in Primary Care specialties (Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics) and 59 percent of graduates who practice medicine do so in Ohio (the highest percentage of any Ohio medical school). In a 2010 study, OU-HCOM was ranked 11th among all medical schools in the country for producing graduates who practice in rural areas. Approximately 47 percent serve small communities with populations of 50,000 or less.
  - The Ohio-based **Centers for Osteopathic Research & Education (CORE)** is one of the largest, most advanced medical education consortiums in the nation. The CORE system integrates osteopathic doctoral and post-doctoral programs with outstanding hospitals, dedicated teachers, and innovative technology. More than 800 medical students, interns, and residents currently receive training via 27 affiliated hospitals.
  - In 2007, the combined **statewide economic impact** of OU-HCOM and CORE hospitals equaled \$5.9 billion. Further, OU-HCOM and CORE accounted for more than 48,000 Ohio full-time equivalent positions and \$196.4 million in total state tax revenue. *(Source: Tripp Umbach, July 2008)*
  - Twenty-two Ohio hospitals are accredited by the American Osteopathic Association's **Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program**. HFAP is the oldest continuous accrediting agency of hospitals in the United States.
  - The osteopathic profession has a **long history of supporting diversity and cultural competency**. The OOA's first woman president was elected in 1935. In 1975, Evelyn Cover, DO, of Columbus, became the first woman ever appointed to the Ohio State Medical Board (OSMB) and its first female president. Barbara Ross-Lee, DO, became the first African-American woman ever appointed dean of a medical school in the United States. Today, Anita M. Steinbergh, DO, of Westerville, is the osteopathic member of the OSMB.
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- Several free-standing osteopathic foundations have been endowed as the result of the sale of hospitals. Since 1999, the largest of these—the Columbus-based Osteopathic Heritage Foundations—has approved more than \$218 million for community health projects, medical education, and research. In 2011, OHF awarded **\$105 million to OU-HCOM**, making it the largest private donation ever given to a college or university in Ohio and the fourth largest gift ever given to a US medical school. The gift is being used to:
  - Re-engineer primary care medical education with a medical home curriculum focused on rural and urban underserved populations.
  - Build a new Ohio Musculoskeletal and Neurological Institute in Athens.
  - Build a diabetes clinical research and care center in Athens.
  - Provide more student scholarships to encourage practice in Ohio.
  - Recruit researchers for diabetes, endocrine and neuromusculoskeletal projects.
  - Provide additional free and reduced cost community health programs in rural southeast and urban central Ohio.
  - Develop a community based research consortium composed of osteopathic medical schools in the Appalachian region.
  - Recruit students for two new branch campuses.
- In 2008, the Brentwood Foundation endowed a chair to **support osteopathic research and graduate education programs** at South Pointe Hospital and at Cleveland Clinic’s main campus. The chair is held by Leonard H. Calabrese, DO, who became the first Cleveland Clinic physician to hold two endowed chairs at the same time.
- Last July, OU-HCOM opened a **Central Ohio extension campus** in collaboration with OhioHealth as the primary training partner on a 14.8 acre site in Dublin. Fifty students are enrolled at the campus.
- This July, OU-HCOM will open a **Northeast Ohio extension campus** at Cleveland Clinic/South Pointe Hospital, thanks to a \$13.1 million investment from Cleveland Clinic and Brentwood Foundation. Thirty-two students will train for four years. According to Cleveland Clinic president and CEO Toby Cosgrove, MD: “This collaboration will help improve quality for patients, stimulate medical innovation and improve the economic health of our communities.”
- **OU-HCOM research**, resulting in the drug Somavert®, is responsible for the University ranking first in the state and fourth in the nation in returns on research investment. (*Source: Forbes Magazine*)
- The Ohio State Medical Board’s **Partners in Professionalism** program is a unique educational collaboration between the OSMB and OU-HCOM. The program instills professionalism and ethics into tomorrow’s licensees by incorporating interaction with the Medical Board into the medical school curriculum. It is the only such program in the United States.
- The **OU-HCOM Physician Diversity Scholars Program** matches first-year Hispanic and African-American students with OhioHealth physicians from similar backgrounds in a series of mentoring activities intended to serve as a gateway to careers with OhioHealth. The four-year program provides a stipend each academic year to cover expenses and a loan repayment program.




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## OHIO OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION

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