



NEWSLETTER

of the **Association of Military
Osteopathic Physicians & Surgeons**

1796 Severn Hills Lane, Severn, MD 21144-1061

James M. Yonts, Executive Director, Editor

(410) 519-8217 jim@amops.org

Volume 24, Issue 4, February 2006

Register Now for the Best Deal on CME, Baltimore, April 28-May 1, 2006

Be sure to register with our conference hotel by **March 30, 2006**. That is the cutoff date for our room block at the Holiday Inn Inner Harbor, Baltimore, **1-888-Holiday**. You can still register with AMOPS until April 17 and guarantee a seat at the social events as well as the educational sessions. Walk ins are always welcome, but for us to serve you best, we need to know you are coming.

A Special Opportunity

Even at the non-member \$425 registration rate you will find this conference well worth your time and money. Your CME Program Director, Col Vincent Carr, has put together a great continuing medical education program, a copy of the preliminary agenda is posted on page three and website updates will continue on the "Meetings" page as changes occur.

A Unique Experience

Nowhere else will you find everyone from students and brand new physicians to flag officers and physicians who have hung up their uniform, sharing their perspectives and knowledge in an open environment. Many attendees say they learn a lot from the sessions, but even more from the interactions with their fellow attendees from all of the military and public health services.

"AMOPS in Maryland"
30.5 Category 1A credits
(AOA Approved)
For Only \$375 — Member Rate
Good Food, Good Fun
Great People and a CME bargain
that can't be beat,
Don't miss this opportunity.
Register today!

The registration form is on page three or you may download the form from the meeting page on the AMOPS website.

AMOPS students may attend the conference educational sessions at no fee, however, this does not include the four lunches or two evening social events. Sometimes social event tickets are donated to students by attendees unable to use their ticket. Students may buy tickets to the social events to guarantee a place.

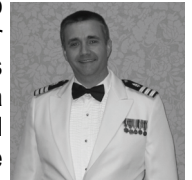
We are always only an e-mail away, please stay in touch, jim@amops.org or www.amops.org

On Target



CDR David Wright President

I have been reflecting recently on what uniformed osteopathic physicians bring to our servicemen and women, their families, and those who have served. Certainly our training emphasizes treating the patient as a whole with special emphasis on health vice illness.



Although important, these concepts are not uniquely "osteopathic". Our "hands-on" approach to the patient both in diagnosis and treatment using osteopathic manipulative treatment (OMT) techniques represents the "value-added" in the physician-patient relationship and capturing this excellent patient-centered care in the medical record as well as in coding is essential if we wish to build a case for the need for uniformed osteopathic physicians.

Electronic Medical Records

As military medicine's electronic medical record (EMR) evolves, it is critical that our community be involved in developing the documentation and coding tools for inclusion in AHLTA (formerly known as CHCS-II). I serve as the Navy Surgeon General's Specialty Leader for Osteopathic Medicine and am looking for a motivated, computer-savvy uniformed osteopathic physician who can represent our specialty in the development of documentation modules for OMT. I am aware that many of you have developed local SF 600 overprints, MEDCIN files, and other templates for documenting and coding OMT. I am actively encouraging all AMOPS members to contact me with their tools and also if they are interested in participating in a tri-service working group to develop a standardized documentation template that will be used across all of the Military Healthcare System (MHS).

(Continued on page 2)



Our free time is limited but if you can come early or stay late, The National Aquarium is just a short distance away.

2006 Match Results Are Out

1,196 osteopathic students, 44 fewer than last year, matched; 123 students who did not match in 2006, compared to 104 in 2005, will either transfer into the NRMP match or scramble into AOA programs. The number of students who elected to go into the military rose to 211 in 2006 compared to 169 in 2005.

if your residency program was not AOA approved, contact AMOPS to find the path back.

On Target, continued



I would also like to put in another plug for the Osteopathic Medicine Community of Practice Webpage on Navy Knowledge Online. I challenge my colleagues in the Army and Air Force to identify similar community WebPages in their own services. I would love to share this type of networking tool with all of our members. An important part of keeping AMOPS relevant is providing services to our members that are not available elsewhere. Within our ranks we have subject-matter experts in numerous fields and many senior clinicians willing to mentor junior members. This year I have had the opportunity to assist Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program (HPSP) students manage a conflict between board exam dates and stipend eligibility and just this weekend assisted a member in obtaining an appropriate privileging action with respect to performing OMT. Keeping connected with your colleagues is vital and the AMOPS website as well as community WebPages on parent organizations knowledge management sites can facilitate this relationship.

23rd National Conference

April 28th through May 1st in Baltimore promises to offer an outstanding selection of high-quality Continuing Medical Education credit with both clinical and operational significance. I hope you will find weekend format conducive to getting away from work and more affordable as travel budgets are curtailed. The number of hours' credit per dollar spent is simply unbeatable. I am looking forward to the fellowship and encourage each of you to participate. For our colleagues who are deployed and cannot attend, you are in our thoughts and prayers.

This will be my last column as your president. I trust you have gathered from the flavor of my columns that I consider myself most fortunate to associate with the greatest and most compassionate physicians in the armed services of our nation. I look forward to meeting with many of you and continuing to serve you in the years to come.

Take care and I will see you in Baltimore.

Please go to the AMOPS website

www.amops.org

1. Download the AOA Census Form.
2. Fill it out.
3. Send it in to AOA.

This is how they decide how many delegates AMOPS sends to the AOA House of Delegates, the more delegates, the stronger the voice speaking for you.

Osteopathic Pledge of Commitment.

"I pledge to:

- provide compassionate, quality care to my patients;
- partner with them to promote health;
- display integrity and professionalism throughout my career;
- advance the philosophy, practice and science of osteopathic medicine;
- continue lifelong learning;
- support my profession with loyalty in action, word and deed; and
- live each day as an example of what an osteopathic physician should be."

Congratulations to Misawa

The Air Force says Misawa's patients are in good hands, recently naming the 35th Medical Group the best 2005 medical treatment facility among the service's overseas military hospitals.

The requirements for membership in the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) is 120 hours with a minimum of 30 hours in category 1A. The remaining 90 hours can be earned in any combination of 1A, 1B, 2A and 2B. If you participate in the entire AMOPS CME conference, you can fulfill your required 30 A hours for the cycle in just one, four-day weekend.

Please encourage the pharmaceutical representatives or other sales people who want your business to contact AMOPS to learn how they can exhibit at and/or otherwise support Continuing Medical Education.

Can't make our meeting due to the operational tempo or for some reason? Visit

<http://do-online.osteopathic.org/index.cfm> to learn about other CME opportunities. Have a problem making your required hours, please let us know, at: jim@amops.org.

A review in the journal *Pediatric Dermatology* notes strong evidence for the relationship between UV exposure and non-melanoma skin cancer and growing evidence for the relationship between indoor tanning and melanoma. Skin cancer is the most rapidly growing cause of cancer deaths in the United States.

An Oregon State study suggests that Vitamin C supplements can help halt the serious depletion of vitamin E in smokers and possibly help prevent cancer. A study in the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute* said that vitamin E supplements appeared to cut the risk of prostate cancer for men who

Speakers Bureau

We are looking for volunteers who would like to be included in a speakers bureau so that divisional societies and specialty colleges looking for speakers on military or

With the recent start-up of new schools, we have many schools that do not have alumni yet who have completed training and entered the "real world". For a list of all the schools, visit the links page of our website, www.amops.org. These students are hungry to hear about our experiences on active duty, the National Guard, Reserves and the Public Health Service.

Reach Out

Mentoring via the internet is the easiest option. If your government travels bring you near one of the schools, or if you live near one, consider making yourself available to these students. Sometimes local military physician recruiters are able to help cover costs of trips to these schools. They need accurate information about careers in the Uniformed Services and the selection process for residency programs.

Give Back

It is also a way to give back to the profession and ensure that the patients you treat now will still receive quality care after you have hung up your uniform.

We would like to have several volunteers for each school so that no one will find this a burdensome task. All it takes to get started is an e-mail to jim@amops.org

DO Day on the Hill, April 27

Just because you wear a uniform does not mean you can't be involved in politics. It just means you can't be seen as speaking for your service instead of yourself.

DO Day on the Hill provides the osteopathic community the opportunity to become advocates. Participants meet their members of Congress to discuss issues of importance to the profession. You can register to at:

<http://do-online.osteotech.org/doday.cfm>

This year's trip to the Hill is the day before the AMOPS CME conference in Baltimore. Consider taking an extra day and letting your voice be heard in Congress too.

The new Bagram Airfield hospital is nearly complete, a Level-III 'fixed facility' hospital in Afghanistan, it is a force multiplier.

When a soldier is injured out at a forward operating base, the evacuation can often stop there rather than having to evacuate the patient out of theater. This can greatly reduce the time before a patient can return to duty; thus, there is less likely a chance the service-member will have to be backfilled.

**AMOPS 23rd National Conference Preliminary Program
 “AMOPS in Baltimore”
 Holiday Inn Inner Harbor, April 28 to May 1, 2006**

Friday 28 April 2006

0700-0745 Registration
 0745-0800 Welcome
 0800-0855 Army Medical Developments, BG Philip Volpe, DO
 0900-0955 Infectious Disease, CDR Kyle Peterson DO
 1000-1015 Break
 1015-1110 Pandemic Response, RADM Joyce Johnson, DO USPHS
 1115-1210 Joint Medical Command, RADM John M. Mateczun, MD
 1215-1245 Lunch
 1245-1315 Exhibits
 1315-1415 Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment, LTC Todd Dombroski, DO
 1415-1515 Combat Psychiatry, LTC Robert Forsten, DO
 1515-1545 Break/Exhibits
 1545-1640 Opioid Misuse, Abuse and Dependency, Anthony Dekker DO
 1700-1800 Pharmaceutical Update

Saturday 29 April 2006

0700-0800 Breakfast
 0800-0855 STD 2006 Update, Anthony Dekker DO
 0900-1000 Eske Research Seminar, RDML Clinton E. Adams, DO
 1015-1045 Break/Exhibits
 1045-1140 Stroke in the Active Duty, John Lynch, DO
 1145-1215 Lunch/Exhibits
 1215-1315 Pharmaceutical Update
 1315-1410 Alcohol Use in Active Duty, Raymond Lande, DO
 1415-1515 Seizures in the Young Active Duty Member
 Col Chris Williams DO
 1515-1545 Break/exhibits
 1545-1645 Critical Care Air Transport
 Col James “Chris” Henderson MD
 1645-1745 What’s Happening to Military Medicine - Marine Medical
 Perspective
 RDML Richard R. Jeffries, DO

Sunday 30 April 2006

0700-0800 Breakfast
 0800-0855 Toxicology 101, CAPT Daniel Callan DO
 0900-0955 Katrina Relief, CAPT Vincent Berkley DO
 1000-1015 Break
 1015-1115 Obesity in the Active Duty Population
 CAPT Wayne McBride DO
 1115-1215 New Orleans Medical Response
 Maj Craig Manifold, DO
 1215-1245 Lunch
 1245-1340 Electronic Medical Records, Michael Zarski, JD
 1345-1440 HIPAA, Mark Moore, MA, MHA,
 1445-1540 Allergy Topics, LtCol Diane Napoli, MD
 1545-1715 AMOPS Member Meeting
 1830-1930 Reception
 1930-2100 Banquet
 2100-2130 Developments in Osteopathic Medicine
 Philip Shettle, DO, AOA President
 2130-2200 Developments in Osteopathic Military Medicine
 CDR David Wright, DO, AMOPS president

Monday 1 May 2006

0700-0800 Breakfast
 0800-0855 Tactical EMS, William Bograkos DO
 0900-0955 Acute Pain Management of Trauma Patients
 LtCol John Hermann, DO
 1000-1055 Approach to Bleeding Patient, Ed Gorak, DO
 1100-1200 Adult Respiratory Distress Syndrome
 Col Stephen Derdak DO
 1200-1245 Lunch
 1245-1340 PRP CMA, Col Vincent Carr, DO
 1345-1445 Emergency Management Fluid & Electrolytes,
 Maj Rita Duboyce, MD
 1445-1500 Closing Remarks

—AMOPS 23rd National Conference REGISTRATION FORM—

Approved by AOA for 30 Category 1A hours

Registration Form is at: <http://www.amops.org>

Hotel Registration is at:

<http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/HI/1/en/advancedsearch?whichtype=room&roomResult=none&hotelCode=baldt&quickRes=city&GPC=AMO&requestid=2098880>

or call 1-888-Holiday and mention AMOPS

Registration Fees are:

AMOPS Member \$375 Non-Member \$425 Retired, Non-practicing Physician \$200
 Physician Assistants & RNs \$225 Intern or Resident \$225 AMOPS Students no fee
 Spouse \$150 (no lunches) Spouse \$250 (with lunches)

Battle Over Rising Health Care Costs Begins

The fiscal year 07 Defense budget proposal offsets skyrocketing healthcare costs by increasing premiums and other fees for retirees under the age of 65. This year's budget devotes eight percent (\$37 billion) to healthcare almost double the cost five years ago. If changes are not made to the program that figure could grow to \$64 billion by 2015.

James Nicholson, secretary of veterans affairs and a retired Army Ranger, called the \$80.6 billion proposal a "landmark" request for seeking an increase of \$8.8 billion, or 12.2 percent, over the 2006 budget, that is the largest one-year dollar increase ever requested in a VA budget, Nicholson said in testimony before the House Veterans' Affairs Committee.

The total includes increases of 11.3 percent in the VA medical budget and 14 percent in benefits programs, both partly tied to ongoing operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

For more information on Congressional bills of interest visit our website's What's new page.

Eske Research Proposals Still Being Accepted

As part of our annual CME conference, members are encouraged to apply to present your research project. For details visit the AMOPS website Meetings page.

You can share your success story with your colleagues and come to Baltimore at our expense. If selected, you will receive transportation to the conference and one night's free stay at the Holiday Inn Inner Harbor, the conference hotel

Baltimore's Inner Harbor a Treat

To learn more about why the Baltimore is called "Charm City," visit some of the following websites: www.aqua.org The National Aquarium's brand new Australian exhibit vastly expands the nation's foremost aquarium. www.marylandzoo.org Zoo www.baltimore.org general Baltimore information www.theorioles.com Baltimore Orioles Baseball www.sportslegendsatcamdenyards.com Babe Ruth birth place and sports legends museum www.eapoe.org Edgar Allen Poe museum. www.artbma.org Baltimore Museum of Art www.bwairport.com BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport

Future of CME Conferences on Members Meeting Agenda

We are looking at presenting a track at a larger meeting such as the annual AOA or AMSUS conferences or perhaps partnering with a Divisional society or specialty college. With less pharmaceutical support and an increased tempo, AMOPS will have to reevaluate how we do business. Come to the meeting for a full report and to share your views.

05/06 AMOPS Dues

Our fiscal year runs from 1 June to 31 May. **If you were not an AOA member last year**, you can get both AOA and AMOPS membership this year for the cost of AMOPS dues. An application ran in the September AMOPS newsletter. It is a great way to start on the road to AOA recognition for your postdoctoral training if you have not already done so.

AMOPS membership information and dues applications are available on our web site or by contacting us:

Print this Newsletter and Share it with a Colleague, You will Be Glad You Did

Our Web site is open 24/7

Visit: www.amops.org

or jim@amops.org

Army Institutes Post Deployment Health Reassessment

Soldiers returning from deployments will now participate in a new health screening program three to six months after arriving home.

The newly authorized Post Deployment Health Reassessment program, or PDHRA, is designed to identify deployment-related health concerns that persist or problems Soldiers notice after coming home.

All active-duty and reserve-component Soldiers who have returned from deployment. Will be included. The PDHRA provides education, screening, assessment and access to care for a wide variety of questions and concerns that Soldiers may have about their health after a deployment.

Surgeon General's Rechecking & Resetting

Army Surgeon General LTG Kevin Kiley explained the health reassessment this way: "When our units return from operations around the world, their equipment is rechecked and reset. We see this health screening as an expansion of the process that looks at resetting

the fighting force – resetting and maintaining the wellness and health of Soldiers."

Not All Problems Show Right Away

Over the past few years defense officials said they learned that Soldiers' deployment health concerns may not be noticed immediately after deployment. After Soldiers get back home and settle into their life and work, they may notice things are not quite right. They may not know the best place to find out what is wrong or what to do about it, said officials.

Intended for Every Returning Soldier

Every Soldier who returns from a deployment will still immediately go through a Post Deployment Health Assessment. The PDHA includes an educational program for Soldiers called a medical threat debriefing, completion of a series of questions about their health and experiences during deployment, and a visit with a healthcare professional. That is very similar to what Soldiers can expect later with the reassessment, officials said.

Soldiers may have felt differently then about their health than they do now and this is where the reassessment comes into play.

Kiley added, It's important to remember that this is an overall health reassessment, not just a mental health reassessment. Many of these Soldiers have been working very hard in combat operations throughout the world. They come back, get some time to rest and recover, and then they begin to realize that some of the things – backaches or skin rashes, for example – have not gone away.

A Second Look is Worth the Time

This screening process gives them an opportunity to come back to us, and for us to provide them the follow-on health care they need."

For more information, visit <https://fhp.osd.mil/pdhrainfo/index.jsp>

AMOPS CME Conference April 28 – May 1, 2006

AMOPS, uniformed osteopathic physicians treating people not just symptoms