AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION

2027 STATE PRIORITIES



SCOPE OF PRACTICE & NEW LICENSURE TYPES

Support the physician-led, team-based model of care and uniform, evidence-based licensure pathways for all clinicians based upon scope of practice.

OSTEOPATHIC EQUIVALENCY, RECOGNITION AND DISTINCTION

Ensure that the osteopathic medical profession and credentials are recognized as equivalent to their allopathic counterparts. Educate legislators about current osteopathic terminology, the distinctive philosophy and practice of osteopathic medicine, and the need for stronger title and scope protections. Support DO licensure and regulation by osteopathic medical boards in dual board states.

TRUTH IN ADVERTISING

Support legislation that requires all health care providers to affirmatively communicate their degrees and licensure types to patients, restricts -ologist and osteopathic titles to physicians, and requires entities offering physician board certification to possess legitimate training and testing requirements.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND ACCESS TO CARE

Work to increase public awareness and implement evidence-based recommendations and best practices related to public health issues. Support funding to strengthen our public health care infrastructure and workforce, address health care disparities and social determinants of health, and establish a robust national strategy to combat future public health emergencies. Oppose practices that restrict patient access to timely, affordable health care.

PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE

Support legislation that expands the physician workforce by increasing funding for graduate medical education, especially in high-need specialties and locations, and expanding financial incentives to facilitate care for the underserved.

TELEMEDICINE

Support the delivery of appropriate health care services, including the prescription of controlled substances, through telemedicine and other communications-based technologies. Advocate for coverage and payment parity between these services and similar services delivered in-person.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)

Support awareness and appropriate use of AI, with the physician retaining ultimate responsibility for clinical decision-making and patient care.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG MISUSE, ABUSE AND DIVERSION

Support evidence-based approaches that balance the need to curb prescription drug misuse with ensuring access to appropriate, timely health care. Support legislation that promotes nonpharmacological pain management modalities, such as osteopathic manipulative treatment.

PHYSICIAN-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP

Support physician autonomy and independent medical decision-making, free from legislative (or other) interference, which preserves the sanctity of the physician-patient relationship and maximizes patient outcomes.

511 2nd Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002 • 202.349.8750 • Osteopathic.org