



# Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association

## DISPATCH

Official eNewsletter

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## February 11, 2021

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### [Advocate for Your Profession](#)

***Why should you care about advocacy?*** Policymakers play a critical role in determining the delivery, cost, and quality of health care provided to patients.

Advocacy is a vital component to advancing and protecting the best interests of physicians and patients. By staying informed and getting involved, everyone can make a difference.

During March there are two opportunities for you get involved in advocacy education and efforts.

## **NATIONAL**

### **Virtual AOA DO Day on the Hill**

#### **Register for Virtual DO Day, set for March 7-8, 2021**

There's still time to [reserve](#) one of the few remaining physician spots in your state to meet with members of Congress during the AOA's virtual DO Day, set for March 7 and March 8. Don't miss the opportunity to [advocate on behalf of your profession and patients](#) on issues that impact your practice of medicine.

#### **The deadline to reserve a spot in your state's delegation is February 17, 2021.**

This year's virtual DO Day offers a fully redesigned experience for practicing physicians, residents, medical students and affiliate leaders, featuring a dynamic

## **STATE**

### **Arizona Advocacy Workshop**

With the continued restrictions for in-person events and meetings, we will not be able to hold the annual AOMA DO Day at the State Legislature.

But we are still committed to keeping you informed and engaged in advocacy efforts here in Arizona.

Join us online on Tuesday, March 16, 2021 from 6:00 to 7:30 pm for an advocacy workshop for osteopathic physicians and students wanting to understand the legislative process, review current proposed Arizona legislation, and learn the best ways to connect with your elected officials.

For more information, contact AOMA at [communications@azosteo.org](mailto:communications@azosteo.org) or call

Leadership and Advocacy summit  
that provides **up to 8.5 hours** of  
AOA Category 1-A credit or *AMA*  
*PRA Category 1 Credits™*.

602-266-6699.

Register

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### Who Will Be AOMA Physician of the Year?

Each year the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association recognizes individuals for their service and contributions to the osteopathic medical profession in Arizona. AOMA members may nominate colleagues in the following categories:

- Physician of the Year
- Lifetime Achievement
- Outstanding Mentor
- Excellence in Osteopathic Medical Education
- Distinguished Service
- Resident of the Year



Please take a few moments to submit your nominations either [online](#) or by [downloading a nomination form](#).

Honor your peers! Deadline to submit nominations is February 22, 2021.

To review the awards criteria and see a list of last year's recipients, visit the AOMA website at [www.az-osteo.org/Awards](http://www.az-osteo.org/Awards).

[Submit Your Nomination Today!](#)

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## [AOMA House of Delegates: Call for Resolutions](#)



The AOMA is accepting resolutions for the upcoming Virtual AOMA House of Delegates meeting on Saturday, April 17, 2021 at 9:30 am.

The deadline to submit resolutions is March 17, 2021. Resolutions will be posted for review on the AOMA website no later than on March 22, 2021. You must be an AOMA member in order to submit resolutions, review the resolutions, and to participate in the resolution process on the floor of the AOMA

This is your opportunity to have a direct say in the direction and policies of the AOMA.

### **Key Dates for House of Delegates**

**March 17, 2021** – Deadline to submit resolutions

**March 22, 2021** – Resolutions posted on AOMA website

**April 17, 2021** – Board of Trustees meeting to review resolutions and make recommendations to the House of Delegates

**April 17, 2021**– Virtual House of Delegates meeting via ZOOM - 9:30 am to 12:00 pm

Click [here](#) for more information about

House of Delegates. Please review the [House of Delegates Primer and Resolution Process](#) document before submitting a resolution and attending the House of Delegates meeting.

the [AOMA House of Delegates](#), or if you have questions or need assistance, please contact AOMA at 602-266-6699 or send an email to [communications@azosteo.org](mailto:communications@azosteo.org).

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## [NBOME COMLEX-USA](#)

### [Level 2-PE and Special](#)

### [Commission Announcement](#)



The NBOME Board of Directors held a special session earlier this week and has made the following decisions related to the global pandemic and COMLEX-USA:

1. The COMLEX-USA Level 2-PE is postponed indefinitely and will not resume on April 1, 2021.
2. NBOME is deferring work on a temporary clinical skills testing site in California.
3. For the **Class of 2021** (and earlier), NBOME is developing a temporary alternative pathway to meet the eligibility requirements for the COMLEX-USA Level 3 examination.

This new pathway will allow for the verification of the competencies assessed in Level 2-PE without the need to travel to an NBOME National Center for Clinical Skills Testing.

NBOME is working diligently to determine exactly what this temporary alternative pathway will look like for the Class of 2021 (and earlier) including options for those who have not yet taken Level 2-PE and others. It expects to release additional details within the next 4 weeks.

4. For the **Class of 2022**, NBOME is convening a Special Commission that will review the future of Level 2-PE and determine potential alternative pathways. Detailed information about alternate pathways will be available by April 30, 2021.

5. The Special Commission and its charge will be expanded to consider and identify new ways to evaluate fundamental competencies currently assessed in the Level 2-PE. This will include a full review of the COMLEX-USA program, to ensure it continues to provide a defensible pathway to osteopathic medical practice and licensure. The Special Commission will include members from across the UME-GME-Licensure continuum, including student representatives and public members/patient representatives. This work will occur in two phases:

- **PHASE 1** will address points number three and four above and will include structured feedback opportunities from all stakeholders, from students to educators to licensing authorities to professional organizations, and public members/patient representatives.
- **PHASE 2** will focus on long-term solutions to assess competencies for osteopathic medicine in the COMLEX-USA program, with an eye on our collective duty to ensure quality care for the public and our patients

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# *Happy Valentine's Day!*

## 100th Anniversary Moment

In addition to being Valentine's Day, February 14th is Arizona Statehood Day.  
Happy 109th birthday, Arizona!

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## National Forum on COVID-19 Vaccine

In support of the National Strategy for the COVID-19 Response and Pandemic Preparedness, Centers for Disease Control is holding a virtual National Forum on COVID-19 Vaccine on February 22-24, 2021.

The Forum aims to promote the most effective strategies to build trust and confidence in COVID-19 vaccines, use data to optimize vaccine implementation, and provide participants with practical information for increasing vaccine access in communities nationwide, especially for persons at increased risk of COVID-19 disease and those who may face barriers to vaccination.

The forum is for practitioners focused on vaccine implementation and people and groups that can champion vaccine uptake in communities. **Registration closes February 16, 2021.**

For more information and to register, go to <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/forum/>

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### **Webinar: Tobacco and Children**

The Arizona Pediatric Quality Improvement Institute (APQII), the Arizona Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics' (AzAAP) program for improving pediatric health outcomes across the state through quality improvement and continuous medical education efforts, is offering a CME webinar for pediatric health care professionals.

**What:** Tobacco and Children: Integrating Practice and Policy

**When:** Wednesday, February 17, 2021 | 6:00 to 7:00 pm

**Target Audience:** Pediatric healthcare professionals including general pediatricians, pediatric subspecialists, residents/fellows, nurses, and physician assistants

**Cost:** \$30 or Free to AzAAP members

For more information and registration

visit <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=l4feghcab&oeidk=a07ehkj8js132434d10>

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## Rare Disease Day at NIH: A Virtual Event

In observance of Rare Disease Day, the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences and the NIH Clinical Center will hold its annual event as a virtual program on Monday, March 1, 2021 from 10:30 am to 5:30 pm EST.

This year's event will feature opening presentations from Christopher P. Austin, MD, Director, NCATS and Pius Aiyelawo, COO, NIH Clinical Center. RDD will also feature personal and scientific stories from rare disease patients, researchers and advocates; interactive panel discussions; and a virtual tour of the NIH Clinical Center.

Rare Disease Day at NIH raises awareness about rare diseases, the people they affect, and NIH research collaborations underway to address scientific challenges and to advance new treatments.

For more information, to register, and to download the app: [Rare Disease Day at NIH.](#)

Registration is free.

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## AOMA 99th Annual Convention - Virtual Event

The AOMA 99th Annual Convention will be livestreamed on April 7 -10, 2021 and be available for on demand playback.

We are very excited to announce that Peter Marks, MD, PhD, Director of the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, will present a lecture on ***Vaccine Development During the COVID-19 Pandemic.***

Other topics include lung cancer, breast cancer, headaches, concussions, diabetes, anxiety, bipolar depression, cervical radiculopathy, and liver transplantation. [Download the full agenda here.](#)

Two programs are available for you to choose, whichever one fits your schedule and your needs:

- [37 Hours](#)
- [20 Hours.](#)



**Save \$100!** Early registration is now open at [www.az-osteop.org/2021Convention](http://www.az-osteop.org/2021Convention).

AOMA designates this activity for a maximum of 37 hours of Category AOA 1-A credits. This activity has been approved for *AMA PRA Category 1 credits™*. Application will be submitted for AAFP Prescribed credits.

[Register Today!](#)

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## Presidents Day



In observance of Presidents Day, the AOMA office will be closed on Monday, February 15, 2021. We will return your phone call or respond to your email on Tuesday, February 16, 2021. Have a safe weekend!

An advertisement for SoFi. The background is split into a yellow top half and a dark blue bottom half. On the left, white text asks 'Feeling stuck with your current private student loans?' and mentions a '0.25% rate discount' in a blue box. In the center is an image of a black graduation cap on a glass base. On the right, the SoFi logo is displayed above a red 'Learn More' button.

Feeling stuck with your current private student loans?

Members can access a **0.25% rate discount** through SoFi.

**SoFi**

[Learn More](#)



## Patients are Looking for YOU! Update Your Profile!

One of the benefits of AOMA membership is the **Find a Physician** public directory search. Make sure your practice information is up to date by logging in to your member profile on the AOMA website. When you do, prospective patients and potential referring physicians will be able to find you.

## COVID-19 Tracking Resources

[www.covidactnow.org](http://www.covidactnow.org)

<https://91-divoc.com>

## Arizona COVID-19

### Vaccination Distribution

[Arizona Department of Health Services](#)

[List of Arizona County Health  
Departments](#)

In case you missed a past issue of the AOMA Dispatch, visit the Archives [here](#).



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