



Oklahoma Academy of Family Physicians

Fifty Penn Place
1900 NW Expressway
Suite 501
Oklahoma City OK
73118-1805

405.842.0484
Fax 405.840.0138
800.678.6237

E-mail: blackstock@okafp.org
Web Site: www.okafp.org

President
Tomás P. Owens, Jr., MD
Oklahoma City

President-Elect
Paul E. Wright, MD
Oklahoma City

Vice President
Paul L. Preslar, DO, MBA
Midwest City

Secretary-Treasurer
Philip R. Palmer, MD
Oklahoma City

Immediate Past President
Pamela E. Ahearn, MD
Madill

AAFP Delegates
Steven A. Crawford, MD
Oklahoma City
Wm. Michael Woods, MD
Ramona

AAFP Alternate Delegates
Kevin E. Steichen, MD
Tulsa
Cheyn D. Onarecker, MD
Oklahoma City

Executive Vice President
Sam Blackstock, CAE
Oklahoma City

Directors
Manuel O. Crespo, DO
Oklahoma City
Russell W. Kohl, MD
Vinita
Brad A. McIntosh, MD
Muskogee
Robert W. Rader, MD
Oklahoma City
Alton W. Rae, MD
Tulsa
James E. Wight, MD
Ada

Director of Operations
Susan M. Hinrichs

Director of Membership
Jamie H. Paul, MS

Oklahoma Academy of Family Physicians 2008 Legislative Summary

The Oklahoma Academy of Family Physicians had a very successful year at the Oklahoma Legislature this year.

Our primary goal was to educate legislators and other elected officials on the benefits of the Patient Centered Medical Home model adopted by the American Academy of Family Physicians.

The effort was underway even before the Legislative Session began in 2008. In November of 2007, the Council of State Governments (a national organization comprised of state legislators) adopted a resolution supporting the principles of the Patient Centered Medical Home.

At the request of the OAFP, Representative (Dr.) Doug Cox and Representative Mike Shelton of the House and Senator Susan Paddock authored a similar resolution, HCR 1058, that was adopted by the Oklahoma legislature.

Senator Constance Johnson and Representatives Doug Cox authored (also listed as co-authors were Representatives Al McAffrey, Ed Cannaday and John Wright) a bill that creates the Patient-Centered-Medical Home Task Force within the Insurance Department. The Task Force will study the quality, safety, value and effectiveness of the patient-centered medical home concept.

There will be sixteen (16) members appointed to the task force, six (6) to be appointed by the Insurance Commissioner, four (4) appointments to be made by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and four (4) members to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. The task force will include representatives from hospitals, an organization representing the elderly, primary care physicians, and other organizations that represent providers and state agencies involved in health care.

The task force shall:

- 1) Assess the value of the patient-centered medical home concept for this state;
- 2) Determine the process necessary to promote this concept within this state with regard to both government-supported and non-government-supported health insurance; and
- 3) In coordination with the State Insurance Department, identify funds available from the state and federal government along with private organizations that may be used as grants for a pilot program for innovative and effective strategies to promote the patient-centered medical home concept.

The task force will report its findings and recommendation by December 1, 2009, including recommendations for any resulting legislation or actions.

Oklahoma Academy of Family Physicians
2008 Legislative Summary
06.14.08
Page 2

As a result of legislation in 2007, the State Insurance Commissioner and a task force designed to determine what should be considered core health benefits for Oklahomans, spearheaded an effort to gain input from Oklahomans as to what their health needs are. There were numerous town hall meetings across the state. SB 1863 authored by Senator Susan Paddock and Representative Ron Peterson put forward three (3) of the ten (10) core benefits discussed by participants at the town hall meetings and the task force. One of the three recommendations in the legislation that passed encouraged the Legislature to conduct a comprehensive study to explore how medical home parameters and concepts can be facilitated and to address known current circumstances and practices that create barriers to primary care access.

A total of one resolution and two bills passed this session highlighting the need to study the Patient Centered Model Home concept.

Respectfully submitted,

Claudia Kamas
Legislative Consultant