

Resolution E – Establishment of a Mentorship Program to Enhance OMT Opportunities

SUBMITTED TO: Michigan Osteopathic Association
SUBMITTED BY: Council of Interns and Residents
REFERRED TO: Professional Affairs Committee
RECOMMENDATION: Support with Edits
SUBJECT: Establishment of a Mentorship Program to Enhance Access to Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment (OMT) Opportunities for Medical Students and Residents
ACTION TAKEN BY MOA: Adopted as Amended

- 1 **Whereas**, the utilization of osteopathic manipulative treatment (OMT) by osteopathic physicians
2 in the United States has been steadily declining, with a 2021 survey revealing that 56% of
3 osteopathic physicians do not utilize OMT, and of those who do, nearly 77% apply it to fewer
4 than 5% of their patients¹; and
- 5 **Whereas**, a lack of confidence and proficiency in OMT techniques has been identified as a
6 significant barrier to its practice among osteopathic physicians; and
- 7 **Whereas**, Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine (MSUCOM) is recognized
8 as a leading osteopathic institution, with an abundance of experienced faculty and staff who are
9 well-positioned to provide mentorship in OMT; and
- 10 **Whereas**, the Michigan Osteopathic Association (MOA) has a longstanding partnership with
11 MSUCOM and is uniquely equipped to leverage its network of osteopathic physicians to foster
12 mentorship opportunities; and
- 13 **Whereas**, a structured mentorship program would enhance medical students' and residents' access
14 to OMT electives, build their confidence and proficiency, and ultimately increase the frequency of
15 OMT usage in clinical practice; now, therefore, be it
- 16 **RESOLVED**, that the MOA collaborate with Michigan State University College of Osteopathic
17 Medicine (MSUCOM) to establish and sustain a mentorship program that connects medical
18 students and residents with experienced osteopathic physicians, providing opportunities for hands-
19 on training and professional guidance in osteopathic manipulative treatment; and, be it further
- 20 **RESOLVED**, that the MOA maintain an updated and accessible pool of osteopathic physicians
21 committed to mentorship, ensuring consistent support for students and residents seeking to
22 enhance their skills and confidence in OMT; and, be it further
- 23 **RESOLVED**, the MOA collaborates with strategic partners to facilitate access to elective OMT
24 rotations for residents.

¹ Healy, Colson J et al. "Osteopathic manipulative treatment (OMT) use among osteopathic physicians in the United States." *Journal of osteopathic medicine* vol. 121,1 (2021): 57-61. doi:10.1515/jom-2020-0013