

# THE BULLETIN

OKLAHOMA COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2016



2016 OCMS PRESIDENT DON L. WILBER, MD  
AND FAMILY

# FRONTIERS of HEALING

A History of Medicine in Oklahoma County



Gayleen Rabakukk

**COMING IN EARLY 2016**

**More than 200 pages telling the  
story of medicine in Oklahoma County.**

**For more information:**

**[www.o-c-m-s.org](http://www.o-c-m-s.org) • (405) 702-0500**



**313 North East 50th Street, Suite 2  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-1830  
phone: 405-702-0500 fax: 405-702-0501  
email: ocms@o-c-m-s.org  
www.o-c-m-s.org**

*Ideas and opinions expressed in editorials and feature articles are those of their authors and do not necessarily express the official opinion of the Oklahoma County Medical Society.*

**OFFICERS**

Don L. Wilber, MD ..... President  
David L. Holden, MD ..... President-Elect  
Sam S. Dahr, MD ..... Vice-President  
R. Kevin Moore, MD ..... Secretary-Treasurer

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

C. Douglas Folger, MD  
Christopher Carey, MD  
Winston Fong, MD  
Renee H. Grau, MD  
Elizabeth Jett, MD  
Jason S. Lees, MD  
James A. Totoro, MD  
Baolien N. Tu, MD  
Duc M. Tu, MD  
Lisa J. Wasemiller-Smith, MD  
Scott Waugh, MD

**BOARD OF CENSORS**

Thomas H. Flesher, III, MD  
C. Douglas Folger, MD  
Julie Strebel Hager, MD

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

Jana Timberlake ..... Executive Director  
Alison Williams ..... Associate Director,  
Managing Editor of The Bulletin  
Eldona Wright ..... Membership Coordinator

**EDITORIAL BOARD**

William P. Truels, MD  
Editor-in-Chief  
Johnny B. Roy, MD  
Associate Editor  
S.S. Sanbar, MD, PhD, JD  
Associate Editor

M. Dewayne Andrews, MD  
Anureet K. Bajaj, MD  
Michael S. Bronze, MD  
Clinton N. Corder, MD  
Randall Henthorn, MD  
Mark F. Kowalski, MD  
H. K. Kurkjian, MD  
Tomás P. Owens, MD  
Steve Ramirez, MD  
Michael Taylor, MD  
Elizabeth Wickersham, MD

**THE BULLETIN**

January/February Volume 89 Number 1  
Six Annual Publications • Circulation 1500

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Oklahoma City Clinical Society Officers ..... 2  
Welcome New Member ..... 2  
About the cover ..... 3  
President’s Page ..... 5  
In Memoriam ..... 6  
Addendum to MACRA Article ..... 6  
Dean’s Page ..... 7  
Thank You Bulletin Contributors ..... 8  
Poet’s Spot: The Stream ..... 9  
2016 Rhinehart Community Service Award ..... 10  
The Clandestine Stone ..... 12  
Young Physicians: Suicide Risk Assessment ..... 16  
Alliance Update ..... 19  
Law & Medicine: Hospital, Institutional or  
Corporate Negligence ..... 20  
New Medical Surveys ..... 24  
Poet’s Spot: When You Happened to Me (A Lover’s Ode) ..... 25  
Cannon Fodder ..... 26  
Director’s Dialogue ..... 29  
Medical Missions in OKC  
Thank You to Open Arms Volunteers ..... 30  
CME Information ..... 34  
Professional Registry ..... 36

**THANK YOU TO OUR 2016 SPONSORS!**

**BRONZE** Alliance Health  
McBride Orthopedic Hospital  
Oklahoma Blood Institute  
Orthopedic Associates  
PLICO  
Quail Creek Bank

**THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS!**

Baker Asset Management LLC  
INTEGRIS Hospice  
Laser Partners of Oklahoma  
OK Allergy & Asthma Clinic  
OSMA Health  
Wilshire-Pennington  
Variety Care



# What is **concierge-style** banking?

**A: “5-Star” Banking**



Laura Nunnery  
Vice President



Mike Thagard  
Vice President

At a 5-star luxury resort, a concierge exists to accommodate the ordinary needs, and sometimes even extraordinary requests, of their guests. At Quail Creek Bank, we extend this same level of service to personalized banking. Concierge-style banking – the Q way! Contact us today to discover why our clients say...

# Quail Creek

PRIVATE BANK

A Division of Quail Creek Bank

**PRIVATE MATTERS**

quailcreekbank.com - 755.1000 - 122nd & N. May - Member FDIC - Cash Management - Remote Deposit - Lockbox



OKLAHOMA COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

## MEMBER NEWS

*At the OCMS Membership Annual Meeting, the Oklahoma City Clinical Society Officers were recognized:*

- Elizabeth Jett, President
- Apple N. Rice, President-Elect
- Sam S. Dahr, Vice President
- Sarah Yoakam, Secretary-Treasurer

### **JAMES T. CAIL, DO**

Dr. James T. Cail is a Board-certified family medicine physician in Oklahoma City. He graduated from the Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1997, and completed his internship and residency at Hillcrest in Oklahoma City.



# WELCOME NEW MEMBER!

On the cover are 2016 OCMS President Don L. Wilber, MD, and his family. Dr. Wilber has practiced pediatrics in Midwest City for 34½ years. He graduated from the OU College of Medicine in 1978 and then completed a pediatric residency at Oklahoma Children's Memorial Hospital. He joined Oklahoma City Clinic upon finishing residency and has remained a partner there ever since.

Dr. Wilber has been involved with the American Academy of Pediatrics as President of the Oklahoma Chapter (1990-1993), member of the Annual Chapter Forum committee (1991-1994), Chairman of the National Nominating Committee (2003-2006) and on the Executive Committee for Oklahoma Chapter for 28 years. He has been Chief of Staff at Midwest City Hospital for five years, as well as on the Board of Trustees for 12 years. Dr. Wilber served as an AMA Alternate Delegate.

Because of his interest in vaccines, Dr. Wilber has been chair of the Vaccine Advisory Committee for the Oklahoma State Department of Health for 20 years, as well as Chair of the Federal Advisory Committee for Childhood Vaccines (2003-2007).

Dr. Wilber has been a preceptor for third year medical students at the OU College of Medicine for 30 years, and is presently on the OU College of Medicine Admissions Board and Vice President of the OU College of Medicine Alumni Association.



*Pictured on the cover: Top row: Chad, McKinley and Kelly Kositzky; Niki, Hadley and Christopher Otis, Clay, Hudson and Amy Wilber. Bottom row: Kaysen and Layni Kositzky, Sunnie Glover, Dr. Don Wilber, Lacey Wilber.*

In 2004 he received the Champions of Health Award from the Oklahoma Caring Foundation. In 2013 he was honored with the Aesculapian Award from the OU College of Medicine Class of 2013 and the OU Department of Pediatrics Teacher of the Year in 2012-2013.

His most enjoyable contribution was 20 seasons of coaching youth basketball, baseball and softball.

Dr. Wilber has two children and six grandchildren.



**Wilshire-Pennington**  
*wealth advisors*



Dedicated to  
**Wealth Enhancement...**  
*...exclusively for Doctors.®*

(800) 264-5815 OFFICE: (405) 751-8600 FAX (405) 751-8898 | 3129 NW SIXTYTHIRD STREET, OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73116

# PRESIDENT'S PAGE

BY DON L. WILBER, MD



The book *Frontiers of Healing: A History of Medicine in Oklahoma County*<sup>1</sup> sponsored by Oklahoma County Medical Society tells the story of organized medicine in our state starting in the late 1800s. The differences between now and then as far as disease, education, and communication are significant, but there are issues that over a century later we still have in common with our predecessors, such as maintaining competency, promoting public health, policing our profession and dealing with political intervention to name a few.

At the time the Oklahoma County Medical Society was established in 1889, the meetings were to “investigate by discussion, lecture and essays all that pertains to our profession.” Today, the Society still strongly supports this effort through CME with meetings and more recently online opportunities.

On May 15, 1891, the Oklahoma City Council, through urging of our Society, passed an ordinance requiring vaccinations against smallpox for anyone over three years old. In a similar public health concern today, through the efforts of Senator Ervin Yen, a member of our Society, and supported by us, there is legislation at the state capitol to do away with exemptions that allow school children to avoid routine vaccinations.

At their March 24, 1904 meeting, OCMS, concerned about the supervision of licensure, “formulated plans and decided on stages necessary for the society to take against the quacks and new illegally registered...” Presently we still fervently maintain the importance of competency with our support of the Oklahoma Board of Medical Licensure. Just as the early medical society was concerned with political intervention, our Society today through the OSMA and their excellent lobbyists remains vigilant about any legislation that either impacts the way we practice or would be detrimental to public health.

Though technology has eradicated some diseases, advanced our education and improved our communication, we now, as then, benefit from organizing as medical professionals to confront any issue we deem deserving.

<sup>1</sup>*Frontiers of Healing: A History of Medicine in Oklahoma County* will be released in early 2016. Books will be available for purchase by contacting OCMS at (405) 702-0500. An advertisement for the book can be found on the inside front cover.



## OSMA INVESTMENT PROGRAM



### How you can benefit from the OSMA Investment Program

Preferred since 1999, the OSMA Investment Program specializes in working with Oklahoma physicians through preferred partner Baker Asset Management, a locally owned and independent money management firm. The firm does not offer any proprietary products or sell its own mutual funds. President and Portfolio Manager, R. Todd Owens earned the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation in 1999, one of the most demanding credential in the industry. Having a trained specialist manage your money can potentially allow you to focus more on your practice, your family, or your retirement.

- Customer Service
- Professional Portfolio Manager
- Trustworthy
- Stocks, Bonds, and Mutual Funds

**R. Todd Owens, CFA**  
*Portfolio Manager*

1-405-415-7200 or 1-800-937-2257



## IN MEMORIAM

ELIAS SALIM SROUJI, MD  
1921-2015

JOHN H. CARNEY, MD  
1941-2015

LARRY R. PENNINGTON, MD  
1946-2015



## ADDENDUM TO MACRA ARTICLE

Last issue, Tomás P. Owens, MD, wrote about the Medicare Access and Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA), which ended use of the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) “R.I.P. SGR: Hello MACRA: We’ll See,” page 17, November/December Bulletin. Within hours of press time, an update was issued. In the article, Dr. Owens wrote “It mandated that pre-April 1st payment rates remained to June 30th. Starting in June and through December 31st 2015, physician payments will increase by 0.5%.” At press-time Medscape and AMA Morning Rounds reported that the Affordable Care Act “and several other laws that set the Medicare reimbursement policy trumped” MACRA and the promised rate increase of 0.5% turned into a 0.3% pay cut in the final CMS fee schedule for 2016. CMS final reply: “We continue to believe this approach is appropriate and compliant with statutory directives”<sup>1</sup> Hello MACRA indeed. Stay tuned!

Reference:

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/853878>

### CORRECTION

In the November/December 2015 issue, Neal Nordlinger’s name was spelled incorrectly. We apologize for the error.

# DEAN'S PAGE

BY M. DEWAYNE ANDREWS, MD, MACP  
VICE PRESIDENT FOR HEALTH AFFAIRS  
EXECUTIVE DEAN, UNIVERSITY OF  
OKLAHOMA COLLEGE OF MEDICINE



This past November, the 2015 *Physician Access Index* revealed that Oklahoma has the worst “physician access” score of the 50 states. Published by Merritt Hawkins, one of the leading physician search and consulting firms in the United States, the Index is based on 33 variables influencing patient access to physicians. The benchmarks and metrics used for their analysis come from widely accepted, annually updated governmental and non-governmental data sources. Their state-by-state analysis applies not only to physicians, but also includes physician assistants and nurse practitioners. In reviewing the 33 variables for each state in the report, Oklahoma scores well only in the number of residents (i.e., physicians completing their residency training) retained and the number of urgent care centers per capita. Oklahoma had 22.5 percent of its population on Medicaid, ranking 16th highest among the states in this metric.

Another data source useful to consult is the State Physician Workforce Data Book published by the Association of American Medical Colleges. The most recent edition reflects data through 2014. Oklahoma has 188 active patient care physicians (M.D. and D.O.) per 100,000 population, ranking 46th among the states, with a median for all states of 225.6 per 100,000 population. What about medical students and residents? Here we do better. Medical student (M.D. and D.O.) enrollment for 2014-15 in Oklahoma was 28.5 per 100,000 population, ranking Oklahoma 28th among the states, with the median for states of 30.4 per 100,000 population. The number of residents/fellows in ACGME programs in Oklahoma is 19.8 per 100,000 population, ranking Oklahoma 42nd among the 50 states, with the median for states of 27.4 per 100,000 population. On a positive note, during the past 10 years we have experienced a 22.2 percent increase in residents/fellows in Oklahoma, but we are still behind most states as noted above.

The State of the State’s Health reports, published by the Oklahoma State Department of Health, continue documenting that Oklahoma ranks very low among the states in many areas of measuring health status. Overall, Oklahoma has the fourth highest rate of death from all causes in the nation, 23 percent higher than the national rate. And while Oklahoma’s mortality rate dropped 5 percent over the past 20 years, the U.S. mortality rate dropped 20 percent. Oklahoma is not keeping up with the rest of the nation.

Health status is a complex equation involving many factors, yet it’s hard to escape the conclusion that to some degree access to physicians and other health care workforce is a factor. Outlining a complete plan to address these issues is beyond the scope and limit of this column; however, I can suggest a rational approach. The State of Oklahoma, through the Governor and Legislature, needs to organize and conduct a comprehensive study and analysis of the State’s current and future health care needs, especially its health workforce needs. This effort needs to involve government and relevant government agencies; the medical schools and graduate medical education programs; public health schools; major hospital systems and the hospital association; representatives of the State’s medical, dental, nursing, pharmacy, and other health professions organizations; and the health insurance sector. A thorough set of objective, evidence-based recommendations should result from this study and be widely shared and discussed. The Legislature must be prepared to take seriously these problems and to work with all stakeholders to develop appropriate mechanisms and funding to set in place the necessary programs and changes required to move Oklahoma out of the position in which it finds itself. Hard choices will have to be made. Addressing these important issues is critical for our state, for the health of our citizens, and for the future of our health care workforce.



# BULLETIN CONTRIBUTORS 2015

## Thank You

M. Dewayne Andrews, MD	Linda Larason
Amy Bankhead	Neal Nordlinger
Larry A. Bookman, MD	Tomas P. Owens, MD
Jason S. Breed, MD	Steve Ramirez, MD
J. Christopher Carey, MD	Johnny B. Roy, MD
David W. Foerster, MD	S. Sandy Sanbar, MD, PhD, JD
C. Douglas Folger, MD	Gabriella Snow, MD
James W. Hampton, MD	Hanna Saadah, MD
Mary Holloway Richard, JD, MPH	Jana Timberlake
R. Murali Krishna, MD	



*Members of the Editorial Board include: Alison Williams, Managing Editor of the Bulletin, OCMS; Tomás P. Owens, MD, Clinton Corder, MD, James W. Hampton, MD, Editor-in-Chief 1982-2015; William P. Truels, MD, Editor-in-Chief; S. Sandy Sanbar, MD, PhD, JD, FCLM, Associate Editor; Johnny B Roy, MD, Associate Editor; Steve Ramirez, MD; Hrair Kurkjian, MD*

THE  
POET'S  
SPOT

# THE STREAM

I throw a pebble in the stream  
And watch the ripples fade.  
It's nice to have some time alone--  
I like to get away.

The water rushes 'round the rocks  
And churns an airy foam--  
As I journey through this life  
I've wandered far from home.

I close my eyes and float  
Along the channels of my mind  
I see the scenes of yesterday--  
The people left behind.

And as the circles widen  
They share a common lore--  
Like all the friends that I have known  
They touch the one before.

And though the ripples of the past  
Have faded long ago  
I love to sit here by this stream  
And watch the water flow!

*Bill Truels, M.D.*



Less waiting  
for emergency care  
(and a lot more care,  
if you need it).

In a medical emergency, every minute matters. So, at AllianceHealth Oklahoma hospitals, you'll find faster care in the emergency rooms. We work diligently to have you initially seen by a medical professional\* in 30 minutes – or less. And, with a team of dedicated medical specialists, we can provide a lot more care, if you need it.

**The 30-Minutes-Or-Less E.R. Service Pledge – AllianceHealth Oklahoma.**

**AllianceHealth**  
OKLAHOMA  
[MyAllianceHealth.com](http://MyAllianceHealth.com)

*AllianceHealth Oklahoma Family of Hospitals: Blackwell, Clinton, Deaconess, Durant, Madill, Oklahoma, Ponca City, Pryor, Seminole and Woodward.*

\*Medical professionals may include physicians, physician assistants and nurse practitioners. Deaconess, Durant and Midwest are owned in part by physicians.



**DON F. RHINEHART  
COMMUNITY SERVICE  
AWARD**



**DON F. RHINEHART  
COMMUNITY SERVICE  
AWARD**

Congratulations to **Mukesh T. Parekh, MD**  
2015 Recipient of the Oklahoma County Medical Society  
Don F. Rhinehart Community Service Award



**orthopedic associates**  
The Musculoskeletal Specialists  
405-947-0911 • [www.okortho.com](http://www.okortho.com)

- Gary B. Anderson, M.D.
- John W. Anderson, M.D.
- Jack J. Beller, M.D.
- Steven P. Brantley, M.D.
- Stephen R. Davenport, M.D.
- Joel M. Davis, M.D.
- David J. Flesher, M.D.
- Thomas H. Flesher III, M.D.
- Greg E. Halko, M.D.
- Michael E. Kiehn, M.D.
- Andrew B. Parkinson, M.D.
- Richard A. Ruffin, M.D.



The surgeons at Orthopedic Associates are board certified  
or board eligible by the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery.

NW 50th & Hefner Parkway • Oklahoma City • 405.947.0911 • 888.947.0911 • [www.okortho.com](http://www.okortho.com)



people you know, coverage you can trust.



## Affordable Health Coverage For Oklahoma State Medical Association Members and Their Employees

With an OSMA membership, you and your employees gain access to affordable health coverage options:

- Choose from several PPO plans priced within your budget
- Options for deductible and office visit copayments
- Qualified High-Deductible Health Plans with Health Savings Account options
- Insure Oklahoma compatible coverage available
- Prescription drug coverage
- Dental coverage available
- Network availability in all 50 states

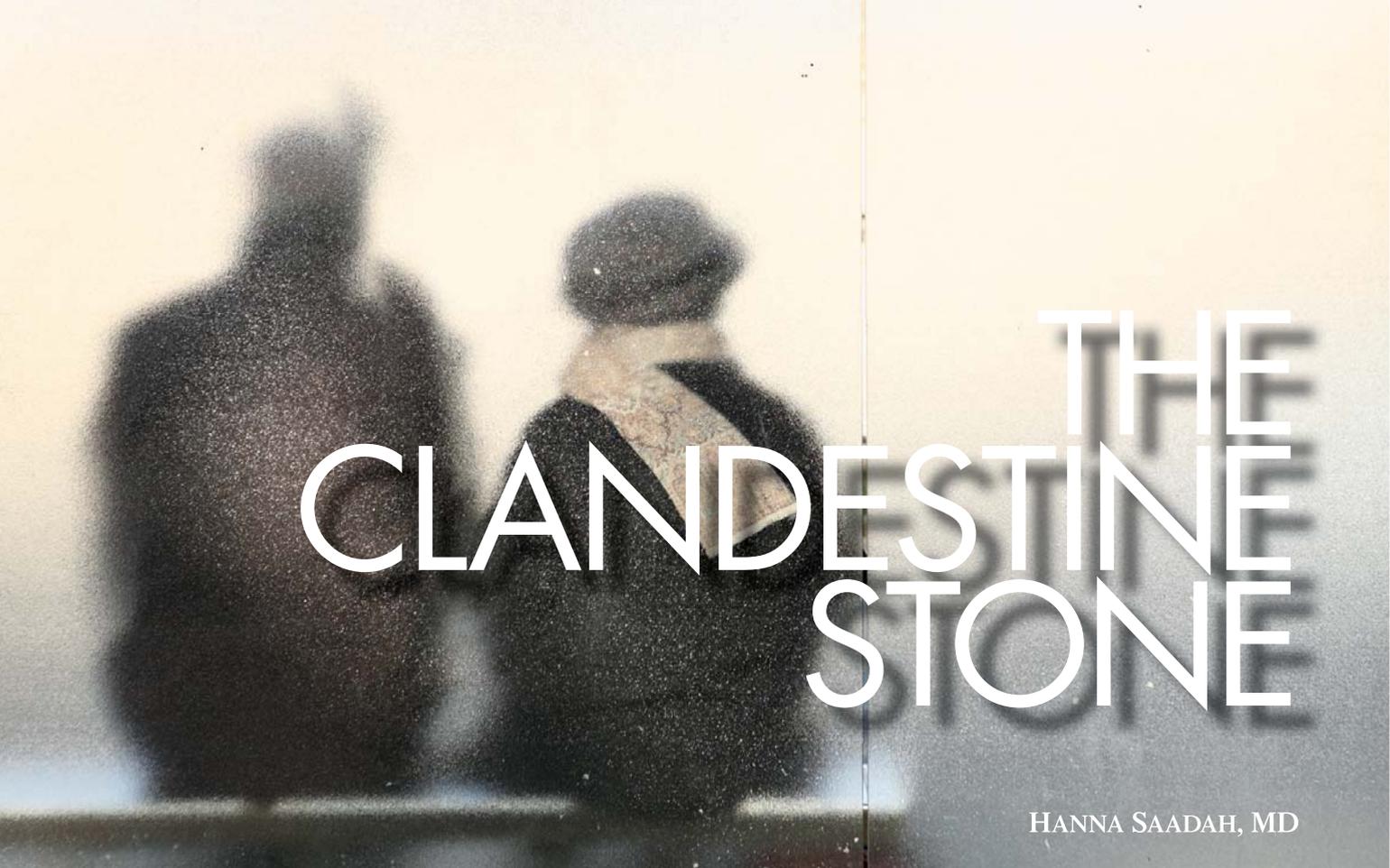


# Contact OSMA Health for details today!

[osmahealth@clfrates.com](mailto:osmahealth@clfrates.com)

405-290-5646





# THE CLANDESTINE STONE

HANNA SAADAH, MD

**S**tories told by common folks echo their unwritten histories and, unless these stories are chronicled, they will forever be lost.

That political events can influence medical verdicts is as self-evident now as it has been for centuries. Juries, like voters, are prone to choose with their emotions, which derive from the prevailing sentiments of their times. This First World War story, told to me by a doctor who had suffered the irrevocable verdicts of emotional injustice, is as pertinent now as it was in 1915.

I was thirty-five years old when I returned to Lebanon to visit my family during a reprieve in 1981. The Lebanese civil war, which had started in 1975 and lasted about twenty years, was in *détente* then, and many emigrants like me seized that opportunity to reconnect with their torn roots.

Soon after arriving, my mother of sixty-five urged me to accompany her to visit her grand mentor, Dr. Niqula, who was celebrating his ninety-sixth birthday. I demurred, certain that I would feel uncomfortable among the geriatric gratulants, but in her peculiar kind firmness she rejoined,

“Youth, because it cannot visualize its eminent old age, feels out of place among the aged,” she smiled as she took my arm and marched toward the door.

“Dr. Niqula means a lot to you, Mother, because he mentored you. I hardly know him. Besides, internal medicine has little to do with general surgery.”

“Have you read Santayana?” She quizzed with wry intonation, certain that I hadn’t.

I sighed – for we were already down the street by then – lowered my head, and murmured, “What did Santayana say?”

“George Santayana famously said, ‘Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.’ You came all the way from America to reconnect with your war-torn roots and you are refusing an opportunity that will not come again.”

Walking to Dr. Niqula’s home, my mother instructed, hoping to kindle my interest.

“Dr. Niqula,” she said, “was the foremost general surgeon in Tripoli during the Ottoman Empire rule, during the French Mandate rule, and remained at the helm of general surgery after Lebanon’s independence in 1943 until he retired in 1965 at the age of eighty.”

“How’s his memory?” I smirked.

“As sharp as yours, my smug young Son,” she retorted.

“He retired because his hands became unsteady. I was assisting him during his last surgery when he addressed me from behind his mask, ‘I have been operating for fifty

years, Mai. I think my time has come to lay down the knife.' Pity how the razor-sharp edge of an instant can rend a life-long career."

Contrary to the geriatric crowd I had expected, Dr. Niquila's home was abuzz with people of all ages. His only daughter welcomed us in, for he had by then lost his wife and son, one to age and the other to disease.

Lean, small, and stooped, he sat on a sofa, conversing with his guests. When he saw my mother, his eyes sparkled and he half-stood as he extended a trembling hand.

"Is this your American-doctor-son?" he asked as I bowed to shake his hand.

"Indeed, he is," she proclaimed.

"You are brave to come while our civil war rages, and braver still to visit a centennial man."

"You visit our family conversations often, Doctor Niquila," I responded, "and it is high time I reciprocate."

"You possess a noble trait, young man, politeness, which seems less prevalent among our younger colleagues. Do you think that science and technology are eroding the polish of our profession?"

I stood stunned before his acuteness. However, my befuddlement was not lost on him because he motioned for me to sit next to him, which pleased and released my mother. As she meandered away among the guests, doctor Niquila and I conversed as if we were the only two in the room. I asked him about the old times and he asked me about the current times. As we talked, I felt as though we were peering at each other from the opposite ends of a telescope, spanning a sixty-five-year distance.

He was interested in American medicine, partly because he was French educated and partly because his grandson had just finished a cardiac surgery fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic. At that point in the conversation, the happy smile, which had not left his face, turned into a sad glimmer as he cleared his throat and whispered, "Can you believe that he has already been sued?"

"Your grandson sued?" I gasped. "What on earth for?"

"He did an emergency resection of an aortic aneurysm on an elderly lady who later sued him, claiming that the chest tube he inserted damaged her breast implant."

I did not know how to respond to his now disillusioned aspect. The pause grew awkward. I cleared my throat and, in an effort to lift the veil of silence, whispered back, "Have you ever been sued?"

People came and left, he shook many a hand, and exchanged deferential snippets of conversation with his guests until the room, which was replete with well-wishers, held only his daughter, my mother, and me. It was

then, still un-fatigued and spry, that he called my mother into the conversation.

"Come join us, Mai. Your son is a good listener and we have enjoyed exchanging stories. I have one more story to share and I want you to hear it"

Dr. Niquila smiled as my mother joined us and then surprised us both with, "Getting old is letting go of the idea of youth."

"You are still young," chimed in my mother.

"The reason I grew old, Mai, was because I got tired of being young."

"How so?" I politely inquired with disbelief.

"We spend half our lives climbing our mountains and looking forward to reaching the peaks, and the other half descending cautiously and looking forward to reaching the base, the very same base from where we had started."

Then, to my astonishment, he quoted from T. S. Eliot's *Little Gidding*:

*We shall not cease from exploration  
And the end of all our exploring  
Will be to arrive where we started  
And know the place for the first time.*

I was struck by his profound honesty and looked to my mother for help.

"Old age also trades physical pleasures for intellectual ones and explores emotional dimensions unfathomable to youth," added my mother with a high-pitched voice.

"Indeed," he nodded, "but do not forget that one more important thing. Old age makes us better storytellers and vouchsafes us with more stories to tell."

"That is so true." I nodded, remembering the great pleasures I had as a child, listening to my grandmother tell her old stories, which I have never forgotten. Then, as an afterthought, I added, "stories heard in childhood remain etched on our memories and keep us connected to our parents and grandparents long after they are gone."

"All history, Son, is naught but a string of stories, which ties the past to the present and tethers death to life;" he intoned, and then added, "unlike us, our stories are immortal. Ghalib, the renowned Urdu poet, framed it best when he said: 'I think we have caught sight of the road to death now. Death is the string that binds together the scattered beads of the universe.' What Ghalib was really talking about was not death, but rather the immortal stories of the dead."

After a few reflective moments, Dr. Niquila slid back to 1915, the year when he had started his surgical career in Tripoli. He had returned from France, sold some family land, equipped a small hospital, and began doing surgery under Ottoman rule.

*Continues on page 14 ...*

A year earlier, with the outbreak of World War I, an Ottoman land-and-sea blockade had starved the Lebanese mountain, killing about a third of its Christian inhabitants. Moreover, the Ottomans abolished Lebanon's semiautonomous status and appointed the brutal Djemal Pasha as commander in chief who, with a red-hot-iron hand, ruthlessly ruled the region. It was during that unpropitious period that Dr. Niqula's story transpired.

"An important Tripoli man came to the hospital at midnight. He was in severe pain and I hurried from home to see him. He was writhing with the pain of a renal colic when I arrived. I promptly gave him some morphine, which was hard to procure at the time, but which I was able to buy on the black market from Ottoman officers.

"For three days, the renal colic persevered, unabated, in spite of morphine and intravenous fluids. The man and his family urged me to operate. I removed the wedged stone from his right ureter. He awoke without pain and went home in a few days.

"Six months later, he presented again at midnight with a similar pain, but this time the pain was on the left side.

Again, for three days, I gave him morphine and intravenous fluids. When he could not pass the stone, he and his family urged me to operate. This time, I removed the stone that was wedged in his left ureter and he awoke without pain and went home shortly thereafter.

"A week later, an Ottoman officer with six soldiers showed up at my hospital and asked me to follow them to the Serai, where I was interrogated, roughed up, and thrown in jail.

"'You will remain in jail until your trial next week,' said the officer as he locked my cell's door and disappeared. I was given bread and water once per day and allowed to go to the toilet twice a day. On my trial day, the lawyer representing my patient told the judge that I had conspired against his client by taking the stone out of the right side and implanting it in the left side, full knowing that he would have to return for a second surgery.

"The judge nodded in approval in spite of my lawyer's scientific defense, which showed with pictures that it would have been impossible for me to implant the stone on the other side. 'Doctors are devils,' said the judge. 'If the doctor was not conspiring, he would have given

## Do you know Variety Care?

Variety Care is Oklahoma's largest community health center, providing comprehensive medical care at 16 locations throughout central and western Oklahoma. **Our services include pediatric medicine, family medicine, women's health, and much more.**

We strive to provide coordinated care to patients through a team-based approach. In fact, Variety Care was the first community health center in Oklahoma recognized by NCQA as a Level 3 Patient-Centered Medical Home (the highest recognition possible).

There's much more to learn about Variety Care. **Please contact us today to learn more about what makes Variety Care unique.**



[varietycare.org](http://varietycare.org)



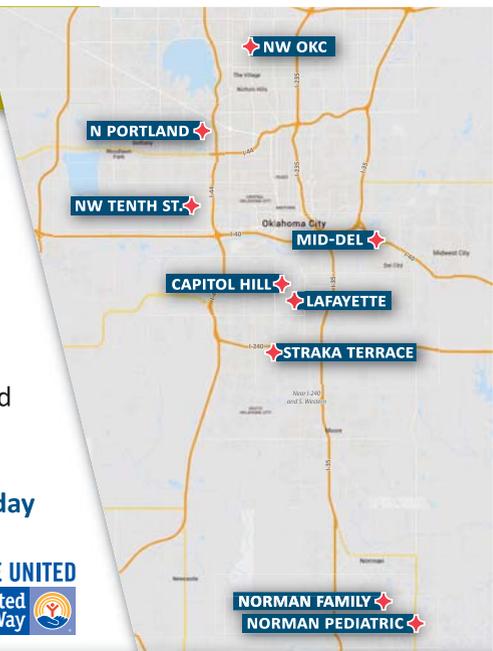
**Jennifer Kuteman**

PROVIDER RECRUITER

[jkuteman@varietycare.org](mailto:jkuteman@varietycare.org)

**(405) 632-6688 x10289 OFFICE**

**405-492-8193 MOBILE/TEXT**



the man his stone, but he couldn't, could he? And even if he had given the man a stone, how do we know that it was the man's stone and not the stone of some other poor man. Doctors are devils and it is hard to outsmart them at their trade.' He then ordered me to pay my patient back all the money he had paid me and an equal sum for all the pains I had caused him."

I did not know if I should seem amused or bemused. I merely stared at this noble man's setting eyes and waited until he had journeyed back from 1915 to 1981. Then, when his eyes regained their luster, my mother interjected with, "Lord Acton famously said in a letter to Bishop Mandell Creighton in 1887: 'Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely. Great men are almost always bad men.'"

Dr. Niqula smiled with satisfaction at his student's adage and then, as if condensing the wisdom of his entire ninety-six years on earth, added, "What you really mean by power is the freedom to exercise power. The real power, then, is freedom. And freedom is a lovely maiden. If you entrust her to the honorable, she will be treated

with adoration and respect. But, if you entrust her to the ignorami, she will be raped."

\*\*\*

On our way back home, my mother had to rub it in with, "Aren't you glad you accompanied me?"

"Yes, Mother. I am, indeed, very glad."

"And what would you have done with your valuable time if you hadn't accompanied me?" she interrogated with a knowing smile.

"I would have read in my book..."

"Which you would have soon forgotten," she interrupted. "But you will never forget your visit to Dr. Niqula."

Dr. Niqula died a year later with only his daughter by his side, but his story still pulsates with my heartbeats each time I see or hear of legal injustice being levied against the innocent. And each time I think of him and of my aging mother across the ocean, the villanelle of Dylan Thomas plays over and over in my mind:

Do not go gentle into that good night,  
Old age should burn and rave at close of day;  
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.



NEW PRODUCTS.  
NEW SERVICES.  
NEW SOLUTIONS  
FOR THESE  
CHANGING TIMES.

MEET THE NEW PLICO. THE BETTER PLICO. YOUR PLICO.



**PLICO**

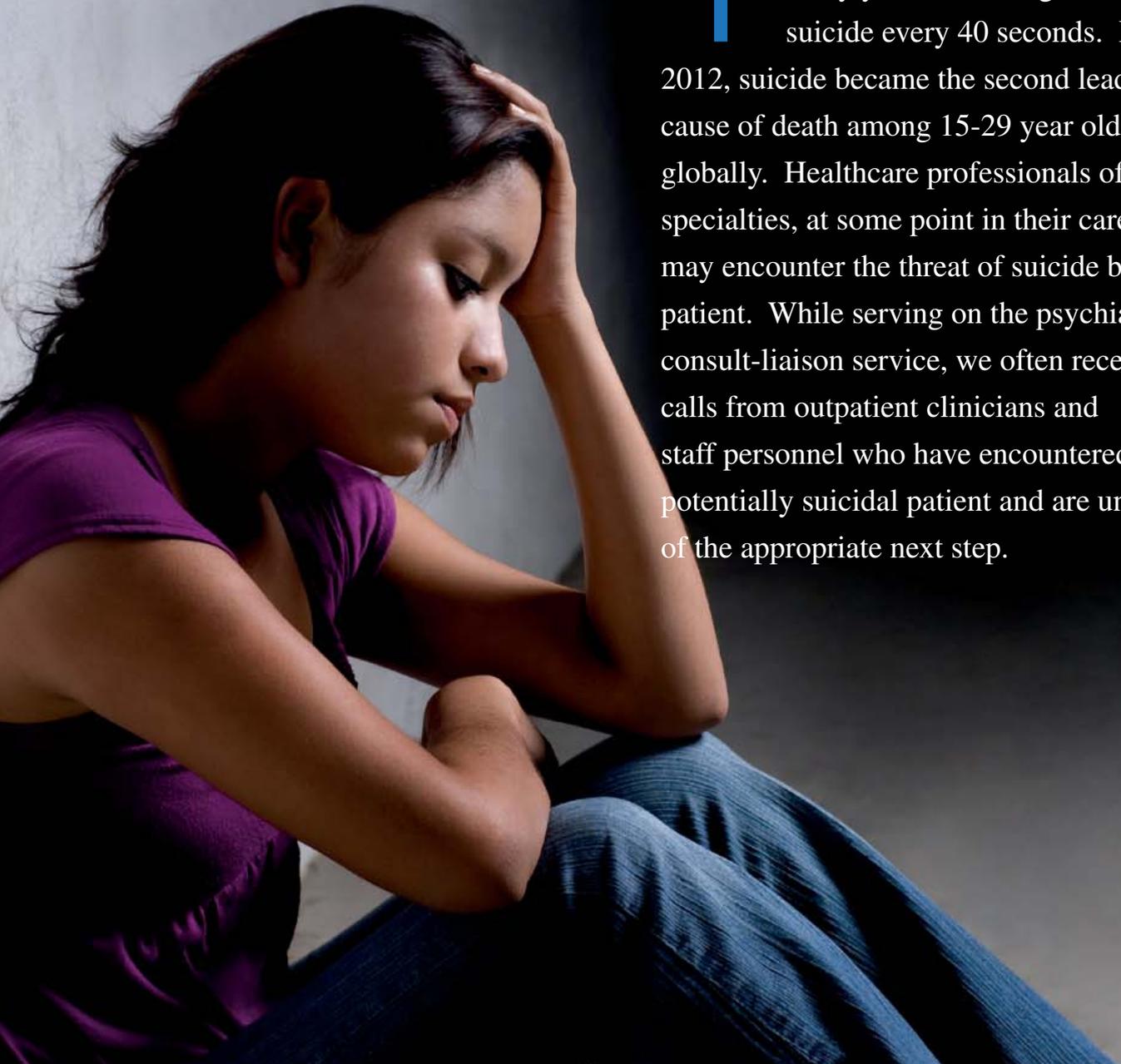
*a MedPro Group/Berkshire Hathaway company*

405.815.4800 | [PLICO.COM](http://PLICO.COM)

FINANCIAL STABILITY RATING® OF A, EXCEPTIONAL

# YOUNG PHYSICIANS SUICIDE RISK ASSESSMENT

NATALIE KURKJIAN, MD



The World Health Organization estimates over 800,000 people in the world die due to suicide every year translating to one suicide every 40 seconds. In 2012, suicide became the second leading cause of death among 15-29 year olds globally. Healthcare professionals of all specialties, at some point in their careers, may encounter the threat of suicide by a patient. While serving on the psychiatry consult-liaison service, we often receive calls from outpatient clinicians and staff personnel who have encountered a potentially suicidal patient and are unsure of the appropriate next step.

The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) reviewed evidence on the accuracy and reliability of screening instruments for suicide; in 2014, they updated the guidelines to say current evidence is insufficient to assess the balance of harms and benefits of screening for suicide risk in adolescents, adults and older adults in the primary care setting. However, one study found a substantial number of elderly people who die by suicide contact their primary care physicians within a month before their death.

The Oklahoma Department of Mental Health created a resource guide for primary care focusing on behavioral health screening and recommendations; for suicide prevention, the guide suggests observing for the following signs and symptoms:

- Talking about suicide or death
- Giving direct verbal cues, such as “I wish I were dead”
- Giving less direct verbal cues, such as “What’s the point of living?”
- Isolating him- or herself from friends and family
- Expressing the belief that life is meaningless or hopeless
- Giving away cherished possessions
- Exhibiting a sudden and unexplained improvement in mood
- Neglecting his or her appearance and hygiene

For patients who have a history of or a current diagnosis of a psychiatric disorder, including depression, alcohol or drug abuse, bipolar disorder, or schizophrenia, these signs and symptoms are critical.

If any signs or symptoms suggest the possibility of danger to self, an article published from the University of Texas offers guidance on how to proceed. The highest priority is assuring the patient’s safety. The room should be cleared of objects that could potentially be used for self-harm. The patient’s belongings may also need to be searched for methods of self-harm. If the clinician feels the patient is at imminent risk of danger to self, 911 or emergency services should be contacted to ensure safe transport for further evaluation or hospitalization. Although family or friends may be present for the clinic visit, the safest method of transport is via ambulance. For

*Continues on page 18 ...*

# Revolutionize Your Practice Today

Daily Cosmetic Laser Rentals

**CAPITALIZE ON THE GROWING TREND**  
of aesthetic and laser treatments.

**ATTRACT NEW PATIENTS**  
by adding these procedures.

**GET STARTED WITH ZERO**  
equipment investment.

## OFFER YOUR PATIENTS

- Laser Hair Removal
- Tattoo Removal
- Fractional Laser Skin Resurfacing
- Skin Rejuvenation
- Vascular Lesions / Leg Veins
- Pigmented Lesions
- Body Contouring
- Skin Tightening

Visit

[www.laserpartnersok.com](http://www.laserpartnersok.com)  
to watch treatment videos and  
schedule your  
clinical training today!

**1-800-685-9809**

**LASER PARTNERS**  
of OKLAHOMA  
YOUR LASER RENTAL COMPANY

patient safety, a staff member may be asked to sit with the patient while preparations are made for transfer from the clinic.

For patients who express thoughts of harming self with no imminent plan or intent, treatment and safety, again, are priority. Involving the patient's family or people close to the patient in the situation, ensuring the home is clear of firearms, and ensuring mental health follow-up is advised.

A study published in the British Journal of Psychiatry in 2012 randomized two study groups; one group was asked questions screening for suicidal ideation and the control group was asked about lifestyle and health. They found that screening for suicidal ideation did not increase suicidal behavior in the period following the survey. Although the USPSTF guidelines do not mandate screening all patients for suicidal thoughts, this study implies the suggestibility of suicide is low. The uncertainty or anxiety that a physician may experience when faced with a potentially suicidal patient may be alleviated by

being observant, asking questions, and ensuring safety measures in clinic and other outpatient settings.

### References

*Quick Guide for Primary Care: Behavioral Health Screening and Intervention.* Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. Web. 30 May 2015. <http://ok.gov/odmhsas/documents/WEB%20PDF%20Behavioral%20Health%20Screening%20%20Intervention.pdf>

World Health Organization. Mental Health. Suicide Data. [http://www.who.int/mental\\_health/prevention/suicide/suicideprevent/en/](http://www.who.int/mental_health/prevention/suicide/suicideprevent/en/). Accessed 30 May 2015.

*Contact With Mental Health and Primary Care Providers Before Suicide: A Review of the Evidence*, Jason B. Luoma, M.A.; Catherine E. Martin, M.A.; Jane L. Pearson, Ph.D., *Am J Psychiatry* 2012; 159: 909-916.

*Quick Guide for Primary Care: Behavioral Health Screening and Intervention.* Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse. <http://ok.gov/odmhsas/documents/WEB%20PDF%20Behavioral%20Health%20Screening%20%20Intervention.pdf>. Accessed 30 May 2015.

Mike J. Crawford, Lavanya Thana, Caroline Methuen, Pradip Ghosh, Sian V. Stanley, Juliette Ross, Fabiana Gordon, Grant Blair, Priya Bajaj

*The British Journal of Psychiatry* Apr 2011, 198 (5) 379-384; DOI: 10.1192/bjp.bp.110.083592



**McBRIDE**  
**ORTHOPEDIC HOSPITAL**

---

**CLINIC**

**Orthopedics**  
**Joint Replacement**  
**Arthritis**  
**Spine**  
**Physical Medicine**  
**Sports Medicine**

**Appointments: 405.230.9270**

Midtown | Edmond | Norman | Kingfisher | Perry | Shawnee | Yukon

[www.mcboh.com](http://www.mcboh.com)

100<sup>th</sup>  
PHYSICIAN  
OWNED

# OKLAHOMA COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY **ALLIANCE UPDATE**

AMY BANKHEAD  
PRESIDENT, OKLAHOMA COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY ALLIANCE

We are happy to introduce a new program that our Alliance Board of Directors approved and named the (Alliance) Community Service Team that follows our mission. Past President Jeary Seikel gathered interested members to create a task force to decide if we wanted to create and implement this new project. Under the leadership of Mrs. Seikel, we considered the scope and service provided, the clients that would be impacted and the satisfaction of our members. We all loved the idea of helping those in our community thrive so we began on our new journey.

In September, under the leadership of member Michele Davey our Alliance members volunteered at the JDRF Walk (Type 1 Diabetes). We helped with the check-in process for the walkers and also volunteered with the set-up of the event held in Bricktown.

In October, under the leadership of members Berna Goetzinger and Natasha Neumann and our wonderful Alliance members, we held the 24th Kitchen Tour held in the city of Nichols Hills. The tour raised \$30,000. Following our Mission statement all proceeds went to three beneficiaries. The first was an organization near and dear to our hearts: the Health Alliance for the Uninsured. The second organization was The Mental Health Association of Oklahoma and the third organization was Oklahoma Mother's Milk Bank. We

presented the checks to the representatives of those organizations at our December Holiday Auction that was held at the beautiful home of Dr. and Mrs. Naji Karam. Alliance members were asked to bring a new or gently used item to stock a kitchen at The Neighborhood Services Martha's House. Martha's House is a transitional living program for homeless families. That will be our next Community Service Team project on January 15th, 2016.

In November, under the leadership of member Rosalie Rahe our Alliance members met at the Skyline Urban Ministry and prepared and served a traditional Thanksgiving feast to those that were at the ministry. We had a tour of the ministry and learned that they had a Food Resource Center for those in need of food. As well as an eye clinic, clothing closet and The Prom Dress Event that takes place in May. Skyline's mission is to impact lives to empower those in need, and to address the roots of poverty in Oklahoma.

In December, under the leadership of Elissa Norwood, we held the Gourmet Club luncheon at Quail Creek Golf and Country Club and honored our lifetime, faithful and caring Alliance member, Mrs. Lu Garrison. We all cheered as to her many contributions to our Alliance over the last fifty years. Congratulations Lu.



The Oklahoma County Medical Society Alliance is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization of physicians' spouses who work together to enrich the community and assist nonprofit organizations that meet a health-related need in Oklahoma County.

## PART I:

# HOSPITAL, INSTITUTIONAL OR CORPORATE NEGLIGENCE

COMPILED BY  
S. SANDY SANBAR, MD, PhD, JD, FCLM, DABLM, DABFM

The terms hospital, institutional or corporate negligence have been used interchangeably by courts to describe hospital negligence. The essential elements of negligence are: (1) Duty, (2) Breach of the standard, (3) Injury caused by the breach, and (4) damages.

In the 1965 landmark case of *Darling v. Charleston Community Memorial Hospital*,<sup>1</sup> the plaintiff sued both the physician and the hospital alleging, among other things, that the hospital nurses failed to monitor the circulation in his leg as frequently as necessary to recognize the progressively gangrenous condition of his leg. Darling alleged that the hospital had a duty to ensure that adequate monitoring procedures were followed and that the hospital failed to satisfy its duty. The Illinois Supreme Court upheld the jury's verdict against the hospital recognizing that the hospital could be liable for negligence, *i.e.*, “**institutional negligence,**” independent of any negligence of the treating physician.

**In 1995, the Oklahoma Supreme Court recognized the doctrine of independent corporate negligence or responsibility in the landmark case of *Strubhart v. Perry Memorial Hospital Trust Authority*<sup>2</sup>, where it**

imposed a duty upon hospitals to “ensure that: 1) only competent physicians are granted staff privileges; and 2) once staff privileges have been granted to a competent physician, the hospital must take reasonable steps to ensure patient safety when it knows or



should know that a staff physician has engaged in a pattern of incompetent behavior.”

Citing *Purcell v. Zimbelman*<sup>3</sup> the Oklahoma Supreme Court stated further that, “This potential theory of recovery is generally known as **corporate negligence or responsibility**. **In our view, testimony about a doctor’s prior conduct is admissible if the hospital, through its personnel, knows or should know with the exercise of ordinary care of the prior conduct, and the prior conduct of the doctor is such that a hospital exercising ordinary care would take some steps to either monitor or discipline the doctor.” Knowledge, either actual or constructive, is an essential factor in determining whether the hospital exercised reasonable care or was negligent.**<sup>4</sup>

Citing *Johnson v. Misericordia Community Hospital*,<sup>5</sup> the Court noted that in order to show causation, the plaintiff must prove some negligence on the part of the physician involved to establish a causal relation between the hospital negligence in granting or continuing staff privileges and the plaintiff’s injuries. Thus the plaintiff must prove that any violation of the duty was the proximate cause of the injury. In *Johnson*, Dr. Salinsky began working at the hospital after falsifying a number of statements on his application for privileges. These falsehoods were not uncovered by an adequate review of those applications and, as a result, Dr. Salinsky was hired and later elected to chief of staff at the hospital. He injured a patient. The Plaintiff settled with the doctor. The jury later apportioned the defendant hospital 80% of the liability, under a finding of **corporate negligence**.

In *Johnson*, the Supreme Court of Wisconsin stated, “Thus, the issue of whether Misericordia should be held to a duty of due care in the granting of medical staff privileges depends upon whether it is foreseeable that a hospital’s failure to properly investigate and verify the accuracy of an applicant’s statements dealing with his training, experience and qualifications as well as to weigh and pass judgment on the applicant would present an unreasonable risk of harm to its patients. The failure of a hospital to scrutinize the credentials of its medical staff applicants could foreseeably result in the appointment of unqualified physicians and surgeons to its staff. Thus, the granting of staff privileges to these doctors would undoubtedly create an unreasonable

*Continues on page 22 ...*

risk of harm or injury to their patients. Therefore, the failure to investigate a medical staff applicant's qualifications for the privileges requested gives rise to a foreseeable risk of unreasonable harm and we hold that a hospital has a duty to exercise due care in the selection of its medical staff."

Statements made by other doctors as to prior investigations conducted into the records of the doctor in the Johnson case, were not hearsay because they were offered to prove that information was available to defendant hospital, not to prove that the doctor was competent or incompetent. The Johnson Court held that it was not necessary to prove actual incompetence, but rather to show that the hospital knew, or in the exercise of reasonable care, should have known, that there was ample evidence in the medical community of Dr. Salinsky's incompetence. The Johnson Court stated, "Further, our holding is supported by the decisions of a number of courts from other

jurisdictions, which hold that a hospital has a direct and independent responsibility to its patients, over and above that of the physicians and surgeons practicing therein, to take reasonable steps to (1) insure that its medical staff is qualified for the privileges granted and/or (2) to evaluate the care provided."

<sup>1</sup>*Darling v. Charleston Community Memorial Hospital*, 211 N.E.2d 253 (Ill. 1965)

<sup>2</sup>*Strubhart v. Perry Memorial Hospital Trust Authority*, 1995 OK 10, 903 P.2d 263

<sup>3</sup>*Purcell v. Zimbelman*, 18 Ariz. App. 75, 500 P.2d 335, 343-344 (1972)

<sup>4</sup>*Tucson Medical Center, Inc. v. Misevch*, 113 Ariz. at 36, 545 P.2d at 960.

<sup>5</sup>*Johnson v. Misericordia Community Hospital*, 99 Wis. 2d 708, 301 N.W.2d 156, 1981 Wis.



# FEEL CONFIDENT

## WITH YOUR BLOOD SUPPLY PARTNER.

- Sole provider of blood products to 158 medical facilities & air ambulances across Oklahoma
- 9th largest blood center in the U.S.
- AABB-accredited immunohematology reference lab, one of only 56 worldwide
- Oklahoma's largest biotech organization
- State's only marrow donor program
- Umbilical cord blood bank, one of only 25 worldwide
- Biocell bank for research & medical application of cell therapies & regenerative medicine



Oklahoma  
Blood Institute

*Available to you for consultation about transfusion medicine*

(405) 278-3100 or 297-5800  
[www.obl.org](http://www.obl.org)



# INTEGRIS Hospice



**Call 405-848-8884**

It's not about giving up hope, but about  
**living each day to the fullest.**

**INTEGRIS**

*Hospice*

[integrishospice.com](http://integrishospice.com)



# NEW **MEDICAL** SURVEYS

HRAIR KURKJIAN, MD

**Dr. J.** has been on the hospital board for many years. At every meeting, there were stacks and stacks of paperwork that needed to be approved. He was never given the chance to read them before the meeting. There was no time to read the documents during the meeting either. Just like all the other members, he knew he had to vote for approval ... which he did. The meeting was then quickly moved to discuss the results of extensive surveys. This task consumed most of the meeting.

Dr. J later found out that the reason the surveys had become so important at the meeting was that the bonus of the CEO and the department managers depended on good surveys results.

One day, he received a survey from the hospital. The survey indicated that it should be returned within two weeks otherwise somebody would call and perform the survey by phone. Dr. J read the survey. Interestingly, he noticed that there was a serial number at the bottom of the page. He realized this is how they track the people who do not respond to their surveys. The number also made it possible to identify the person who was being surveyed. This, of course, would eliminate the supposed anonymity nature of the survey, making it of questionable validity. Initially, Dr. J did not pay much attention to the surveys. But the surveying company hired by the hospital kept calling. His next stage of dealing with identifiable surveys was to proceed with giving excellent reviews.

He wondered if the people who actually responded were the complainers. He completed the survey and moved on with his clinic. His next appointment was a patient who had received a survey from the hospital.



He asked the patient how he was going to respond to the survey. The patient said “Look doc, when I had a cold, I went to my previous doctor. He always prescribed me antibiotics. I loved my doctor because he was so considerate; he always gave what I think I needed to have.” Then he added, “You know, I have a new doctor, now. When I ask him for antibiotics for a cold, he won’t give them to me. He is so mean. So, when I get the survey about him, I will let him have it”.

Dr. J also learned about the importance of surveys administered by different health entities including insurance and hospitals to evaluate some parts of quality care by physicians. Actually, he found out, too, that with the new Obamacare, one of the pillars of the new healthcare was Meaningful Use that in many ways depends on surveys. Dr. J wondered if the surveys really meant better care for patients. That evening he perused the April 17 issue of the *Atlantic*. He read that the extreme efforts to satisfy patients may lead in some cases, to more expensive, less quality health care and maybe even lead to more deaths.



## WHEN YOU HAPPENED TO ME (A LOVER’S ODE)

HANNA SAADAH, MD



When you happened to me  
As buds happen to spring  
Or nesters find their wing  
Or rough weather turns fair  
Or hearts become aware  
That flower-speckled walls of stone  
Are yet alive and not alone.

When you happened to me  
I lost myself in you  
And found myself in you  
As buds are lost to blossoms  
And blossoms are lost to fruits  
And fruits are lost to seeds  
Alive, I went to seed  
Inside your smiling heart.

And suddenly, I understood what’s love  
Now that I am inside your smiling heart  
Love is the seed that blossoms into fruits  
The living seed that, dormant, lies for years  
Before again it blossoms and again  
The seed that says in love there is no death  
For love is life and nothing dead can love.

When I cannot reach my feet  
Nor alone walk down the street  
When my cataracts bring night  
To the days that once were bright  
When my ears no longer hear  
And each day adds one more fear  
When the years accumulate  
And my friends succumb to fate  
All I need to sprout and shine  
Are your hands entwined in mine.

I stole a glance to where you stood  
And all at once I understood  
That death must follow; life must lead  
You are my fruit; I am your seed.

# CANNON FODDER

PHILIP MAGUIRE, MD

alled *an gorta mor* in Gaelic the great potato famine in Ireland occurred between 1845 and 1852. The cause was *phytophthora infestans*, an oomycete attacking potatoes, one of the main food sources for the Irish.

One million starved to death and more than a million emigrated to America. In the resulting diaspora James FitzGibbons, my great grandfather, and my great grandmother Ellen came to America.

My great grandfather was born in Ireland in 1833. He and my great grandmother came to America in 1857 and settled at Niagara Falls, New York. They had spent some time in England prior to coming to America and were married in England in 1854. In New York he worked on the Welland Canal which went from Lake Ontario to Lake Erie.

The Union army was in dire need of soldiers – the Irish were plentiful – they were conscripted or enlisted in great numbers. So many died on the battlefields that they were sometimes called “Cannon Fodder.” On May 4, 1861 great grandfather James FitzGibbons enlisted in the Union Army. He was mustered in the Army at Albany, New York and assigned to Company I, 28 Regiment NY Volunteers, I “Brigade, I” Division. He began training in Maryland and was

doing picket duty and guard duty along the upper Potomac river. On September 14, 1861 he deserted to return to his wife, having heard that she was dying. She did die and he was left with two children (my grandfather and great uncle).

He remained in New York and worked as a laborer while caring for his two sons for the next three years. He was ultimately arrested for desertion on July 29, 1864 and put in a holding company. On January 3, 1865 he was tried and Court Marshaled in Alexandria, Virginia. He explained the reason he left the Army but was fined loss of pay and \$10 a month and ordered to serve out his original enlistment. His children were left in the care of relatives.

On August 9, 1864 he was assigned to Company G, 25th NY Veteran Volunteers Regiment, called Duryee’s Zouaves an outfit that had unusual, colorful uniforms. He traveled to Virginia with this regiment and fought in some of the last battles of the Civil War. One of those battles was the Battle of White Oak Road where the Union Army thrust their forces against an entrenched Confederate line (a place I have visited, the revetments are still visible).

James FitzGibbons was killed in the Battle of White Oak Road nine days before the war ended.



THE BULLETIN

# SCHEHERAZADE

1001 Arabian Nights:  
A Triple Bill

FEBRUARY 26-28  
CIVIC CENTER MUSIC HALL

OKLAHOMA  
CITY  
BALLET

ROBERT MILLS, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

PRESENTED BY



**20%\***  
OFF TICKETS FOR  
OCMS MEMBERS  
Code word: OCMS

Dennis Spaight's  
*Scheherazade,*  
1001 Arabian Nights

Nacho Duato's  
*Without Words*

Ma Cong's  
*World Premiere*

TICKETS ON SALE NOW

405.848.8637  
OKCBALLET.COM

405.297.2264  
OKCCIVICCENTER.COM

Convenience charges may apply

\* Discount can only be redeemed by calling 848.8637





**Welcomes  
Dr. Bret R. Haymore  
to our Team and a  
New Location in  
Midwest City!**



**Dr. Atkinson**



**Dr. Chong**



**Dr. Filley**



**Dr. Hatch**



**Dr. Metz**



**Dr. Neagu**



**Dr. Overhulser**



**Dr. Stutes**



**Karen Gregory,  
DNP**



**Stefanie Rollins,  
APRN, CNP**

## **Accepting New Patients!**

### **Main Office**

at the Oklahoma Health Center  
750 N.E. 13th

### **Meridian Medical Tower**

*(Across from Mercy Hospital)*  
13321 N. Meridian, Suite 100

### **Edmond at Fisher Hall**

3560 S. Boulevard, Suite 150

### **Norman Physician's Building**

*(Across from Norman Reg. Hospital)*  
950 N. Porter, Suite 102

### **Midwest City**

8121 National Avenue • Midwest City, OK 73111



Follow us on Twitter @okallergyasthma  
and like us on Facebook  
for daily allergy reports

**Appointments 405/996-3282 • [www.oklahomaallergy.com](http://www.oklahomaallergy.com)**

# DIRECTOR'S DIALOGUE

BY JANA TIMBERLAKE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*“Every new beginning comes from some other beginning’s end.”*

~ Seneca

Now that the holidays are over, Christmas decorations put away and resolutions are made, how can it be that 2015 is a faint memory? Is it because as we age, time marches at a faster pace? I look forward to each new year – for new possibilities, new challenges, new members – and the return to a routine after the holiday break.

On Friday, January 22nd, Dr. Don Wilber will be inaugurated as the Society’s president. If you have not returned your Inaugural RSVP, please do so ASAP! A wonderful evening is planned at the Oklahoma City Golf & Country Club in Dr. Wilber’s honor. Dr. Mukesh Parekh will be presented with the Don F. Rhinehart, MD Medical Service Award, which recognizes OCMS members, active or retired, who have demonstrated significant involvement in projects to help improve health care, the community, or the state. Also being recognized on this special evening are the members of the OCMS Leadership Academy Class VI.

I also want to welcome Dr. Bill Truels as the new Editor-in-Chief of the Bulletin. Dr. Truels has served as an Associate Editor for many years, is a wonderful writer and has contributed many entertaining stories to our official publication. Many thanks to Dr. James W. Hampton who served as the Editor-in-Chief for 33 years and devoted untold hours to the Bulletin after long work days. His guidance, knowledge, creativity and patience served the Society well.

*Frontiers of Healing, a History of Medicine in Oklahoma County*, should be in the Society’s office by

the time you read this article. Unfortunately, delays prevented an early December 2015 book signing, but a similar event will be planned in the spring. The Society will have extra books to sell at \$50 each. More information will be provided at a later date about how to purchase your copy.

Quail Creek Bank, NA and the Society are sponsoring an OCMS New Member Event on Monday, March 14th. We have purchased several tickets to the Thunder game that will be available to new members on a “first come-first served” basis. A reception is being planned at the Courtyard Marriott, next door to the Chesapeake Arena, with food and drink where game tickets will be distributed. All those who qualify as “new members” will soon receive a notice about this event. It is a great opportunity to mingle with your colleagues, meet OCMS leadership and staff and enjoy the Thunder team in action!

January 1st of each year dawns with new beginnings – I look forward to 2016 with great anticipation and am thankful I have the incredible opportunity to work for physicians. To close, a little food for thought is below that is an excerpt from *Little Gidding*, by T. S. Eliot:

“For last year’s words belong to last year’s language  
And next year’s words await another voice  
And to make an end is to make a beginning.”

*Enjoy the year!!!*

Jana Timberlake, CAE  
Executive Director



# MEDICAL MISSIONS IN OKC

STEVEN SACKET, MD, MEDICAL DIRECTOR, OPEN ARMS CLINIC

One does not need to travel far to find opportunities for medical mission work. Almost 23% of Oklahoma City residents between the ages of 18 and 64 have no health insurance. With the help of physician volunteers, Open Arms Clinic – a nonprofit, charitable clinic serving low income and uninsured patients – has been making a difference in the health of these patients for over 22 years.

Nearly every physician would agree that he or she originally pursued medicine to help others; however, it's easy to lose that passion in the constant barrage of provider responsibilities and day-to-day requirements of billing for patient care. Volunteering to provide medical services to the underserved is a great way to reconnect with one's purpose. In fact, this is one of reasons that some physicians frequently volunteer their services at Open Arms Clinic.

Open Arms Clinic serves as a medical home for the uninsured and provides an opportunity to make a significant connection with patients while helping them manage their chronic health conditions. Whether you are a general practitioner or a specialist, actively practicing or retired, we can use your help – even as little as just a couple times a year.

Becoming a part of the team is easy. Interested physicians can contact the Volunteer Coordinator, Rosemary Hayes, at Open Arms Clinic for more information. Please call 405-546-7416, visit [www.openarmsokc.org](http://www.openarmsokc.org), or send an email to [RHayes@OpenArmsClinicOKC.org](mailto:RHayes@OpenArmsClinicOKC.org) if you are interested in learning more about this challenging and rewarding way to give of yourself. Thank you!

## THANK YOU 2015 OPEN ARMS CLINIC VOLUNTEERS

Steven Burner, MD  
Max G. Cates, MD  
Clinton Corder, MD  
Lauranne Harris, MD  
Christopher Hayes, MD  
Frank Lawler, MD  
Kori M. Lewis, MD  
D. Robert McCaffree, MD  
Mukesh Parekh, MD  
John R. Pittman, M.D  
Robert Renouard, MD  
Larry Ruffin, DO  
Hanna Saadah, MD  
Bruce Stafford, DO  
Robert Stepp, MD  
Trina D. Swygert, MD  
Larry Willis, MD





# THANK YOU 2016 OCMS SPONSORS!

## BRONZE SPONSORS

ALLIANCE HEALTH  
McBRIDE ORTHOPEDIC HOSPITAL  
OKLAHOMA BLOOD INSTITUTE  
ORTHOPEDIC ASSOCIATES  
PLICO  
QUAIL CREEK BANK



# CME INFORMATION

### DEACONNESS HOSPITAL

Contact: **Emily McEwen**, CME Coordinator  
Medical Library  
Phone: 604-4523

### INTEGRIS BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER

Contact: **Marilyn Fick**, Medical Education  
Phone: 949-3284

### INTEGRIS SOUTHWEST MEDICAL CENTER

Contact: **Marilyn Fick**, CME Coordinator  
Phone: 949-3284

### MERCY HOPITAL OKC

Contact: **May Harshburger**, CME Coordinator  
Phone: 752-3390

### MIDWEST REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Contact: **Carolyn Hill**  
Medical Staff Services Coordinator  
Phone: 610-8011

### OKLAHOMA ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS CHOICE CME PROGRAM

Contact: **Samantha Elliott**, Director of Membership  
Phone: 842-0484  
Email: [elliott@okafp.org](mailto:elliott@okafp.org)  
Website: [www.okafp.org](http://www.okafp.org)

### OUHSC-IRWIN H. BROWN OFFICE OF CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Contact: **Susie Dealy** or **Myrna Rae Page**  
Phone: 271-2350  
Check the homepage for the latest CME offerings:  
<http://cme.ouhsc.edu>

### ST. ANTHONY HOSPITAL

Contact: **Susan Moore**, CME Coordinator  
Phone: 272-6748

### ORTHOPAEDIC & RECONSTRUCTION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Contact: **Kristi Kenney**, CME Program Director  
or **Tiffany Sullivan**, Executive Director  
Phone: 631-2601

# PROFESSIONAL REGISTRY

Physicians interested in advertising in the Professional Registry should contact the Executive Office at 702-0500.

## ALLERGY

### OKLAHOMA ALLERGY & ASTHMA CLINIC, INC.

Warren V. Filley, M.D. \*  
James R. Claffin, M.D. \*  
Patricia I. Overhulser, M.D. \*  
Dean A. Atkinson, M.D. \*  
Richard T. Hatch, M.D. \*  
Shahan A. Stutes, M.D. \*  
Gregory M. Metz, M.D. \*  
Laura K. Chong, M.D. \*  
Florina Neagu, M.D.

\* *Diplomate, American Board of Allergy and Immunology*™

750 N.E. 13th St.  
Oklahoma City, OK 73104  
405-235-0040

## ENDOCRINOLOGY DIABETES & METABOLISM

### MODHI GUDE, M.D., MRCP (UK), FACP, FACE

Diplomate, American Boards of Internal Medicine and  
Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism

South Office:  
1552 S.W. 44th  
Oklahoma City, OK 73119  
405-681-1100

North Office:  
6001 N.W. 120th Ct. #6  
Oklahoma City, OK 73162  
405-728-7329

*Practice limited to Endocrinology,  
Diabetes and Thyroid only.*

### Special Procedures:

Bone densitometry for osteoporosis detection and management.  
Diagnostic thyroid fine needle aspiration biopsy.  
Diagnostic endocrine and metabolic protocols.

## NEUROSURGERY

### OU NEUROSURGERY

The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center  
Department of Neurosurgery

Timothy B. Mapstone, M.D.	Gamma Knife Radiosurgery
Craig H. Rabb, M.D.	Cerebrovascular Surgery
Bradley N. Bohnstedt, M.D.	Pediatric Neurosurgery
Naina L. Gross, M.D.	Spine Surgery
Michael D. Martin, M.D.	Skull Base Surgery
Michael Sughrue, M.D.	Neurosurgical Chemotherapy
Amanda Yaun, M.D.	Carotid Artery Surgery
	Tethered Spinal Cord-Repair
	Chiari Malformation-Surgery

*To schedule an appointment call*  
405-271-4912

Harold Hamm Oklahoma Diabetes Center  
1000 N. Lincoln Blvd., Suite 400  
Oklahoma City, OK 73104

## PAIN MANAGEMENT

### AVANI P. SHETH, M.D.

Diplomate of American Board of Anesthesiology  
Diplomate of American Academy of Pain Management

4200 W. Memorial Road, Suite 305  
Oklahoma City, OK 73120  
405-841-7899

*All Plans Accepted.*

Changed Your Email  
Address?  
New Mailing Address?



Let us know so we can keep you updated!  
Email: [ewright@o-c-m-s.org](mailto:ewright@o-c-m-s.org) / Call: 702-0500

## PLASTIC SURGERY

### OU PHYSICIANS PLASTIC SURGERY

Kamal T. Sawan, M.D.  
Christian El Amm, M.D.  
Suhair Maqusi, M.D.

**Adult Clinic Location**  
**OU Physicians Building**  
**825 N.E. 10th St., Suite 1700**  
**Oklahoma City, OK 73104**

*To schedule an appointment for Adult Services call*  
**405-271-4864**

#### Adult Services

Facelifts	Laser Hair Removal
Endoscopic Brow Lifts	Botox & Fillers
Nose Reshaping	Body Contouring
Eyelid Surgery	After Weight Loss
Liposuction	Birth Defects
Breast Augmentation	Hand Surgery - Dr. Maqusi
Breast Reconstruction	Microsurgery
Breast Reduction	Burn Reconstruction
TummyTuck	Skin Cancer Excision
Skin Rejuvenation	MOHs Reconstruction

**Pediatric Clinic Location**  
**OU Children's Physicians Building**  
**1200 N. Phillips Ave., 2nd Floor Suite 2700**  
**Oklahoma City, OK 73104**

*To schedule an appointment for Pediatric Services call*  
**405-271-4357**

#### Pediatric Services

Secondary Burn Reconstruction	Craniofacial Syndromes
Cleft Lip & Palate	Hemangiomas
Congenital Nevi	Traumatic Defects
Craniosynostosis	Vascular Lesions

## RADIOLOGY

### JOANN D. HABERMAN, M.D.

Breast Cancer Screening Center of Oklahoma  
Mammography - Screen/Film  
Breast Ultrasound

**6307 Waterford Blvd., Suite 100**  
**Oklahoma City, OK 73118**  
**405-607-6359 Fax 405-607-8256**

## UROLOGY

### Urologists at OU Medicine

#### Adult Urology

Michael S. Cookson, MD, Chairman  
Urology Department, Urologic Oncology/Robotics  
Ash Bowen, MD, General/Oncology/Robotics  
Daniel Culkin, MD, Men's Health/Stones/Oncology  
Jonathan Heinlen, MD, Urologic Oncology/Robotics  
Joel Slaton, MD, Urologic Oncology  
Kelly Stratton, MD, Urologic Oncology/Robotics  
Gennady Slobodov, MD, Male/Female/Reconstructive/  
Incontinence/Neurogenic Bladder  
Puneet Sindhvani, MD, Male Infertility/Transplantation

#### OU Physicians:

**Adult Urology 405-271-6452**

**Edmond 405-340-1279**

**Stephenson Cancer Center 405-271-4088**

#### Pediatric Urology

Brad Kropp, MD, Pediatric Urology  
Dominic Frimberger, MD  
Pediatric Urology/Reconstructive Surgery/Spina Bifida  
Blake Palmer, MD  
Pediatric Urology/Robotics  
William Reiner, MD, Child/Adolescent Psychiatry

#### OU Children's Physicians:

**Urology 405-271-2006**

**Edmond 405-340-1279**

THE  
BULLETIN





Oklahoma County Medical Society  
313 N.E. 50th St., Suite 2  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-1830

---

*Address Service Requested*

PRESORTED STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK  
**PERMIT NO. 381**