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For Immediate Release

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Dr. Mary Hanley Named Physician of the Year by the South Carolina Osteopathic Medical Society

Spartanburg, S.C. – The [South Carolina Osteopathic Medical Society](#) (SCOMS) named Mary Elizabeth Hanley, DO, FUHM, CWSP, FAPWCA its 2022 Physician of the Year at its Annual Meeting last week at the [Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine - Carolinas](#).

“The Physician of the Year Award honors a practicing physician who demonstrates unwavering dedication toward patients, has made a significant impact in direct patient care and whose actions embody the values of the profession through leadership and service to the public and the profession,” said SCOMS President Dr. Ryan Hakimi, a Neurointensivist and the Director of the Neuro ICU and TCD Services at [Prisma Health-Upstate’s Greenville Memorial Hospital](#). “Dr. Mary Elizabeth Hanley embodies all of these characteristics in addition to exemplifying profound courage, outstanding character, a sense of fairness, compassion and empathy, and impeccable ethics for over 30 years. She is a true inspiration to Doctors of Osteopathic Medicine (DOs) and to the healthcare industry in South Carolina.”

Dr. Hanley is the Medical Director of Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine at [Roper St. Francis Healthcare in Charleston](#). She also serves as the medical director of Roper’s new [Limb Amputation Prevention Program](#). Dr. Hanley also serves as president of the [American Osteopathic College of Preventive & Occupational Medicine](#) and diligently engages in the progress and development of hyperbaric medicine and up-to-date wound care, seeing both out and in-patients.

“This has been a labor of love for four years for me since I first came to Charleston,” Dr. Hanley says. “This is what I came here to do.”

According to Dr. Hanley, South Carolina is seeing an epidemic of Type 2 diabetes, which for some patients can lead to the amputation of toes, feet, and legs. Once a diabetic has a major amputation, which means either a below knee or above knee amputation, their five-year mortality is between 70 and 80%,” Dr. Hanley says. “That means 70 to 80% of them won’t be alive in five years.”

Her plans for South Carolina are to assist in developing proper usage of hyperbaric medicine and she has written about the lack of diabetic medical foot hygiene and care, which is present at many clinical levels, with the plans to see, assess and appropriately treat diabetic feet long before an amputation becomes the only solution.



She came to South Carolina in 2018 to help patients, many of whom are poor, disenfranchised from the health care system, ashamed and embarrassed by their chronic wounds. Compassion and empathy are hallmarks of her patient care as Dr. Hanley can personally relate to her patients.

“It took the loss of a functioning dominant hand for me to be able to help my patients see what they still have and can still do, and it is my hope that seeing me, and hearing my story, gives them hope as well and brings them back into the light,” said Dr. Hanley.

While working as an anesthesiologist, Dr. Hanley sustained a MRSA infection and vasculitis affecting her dominant right upper limb. She had a life-threatening pulmonary embolism and needed ICU support and then months of home IV-antibiotics and oxygen. These events, including permanent deformity and loss of normal use of her right upper limb, did not stop her nor her love of clinical medicine.

After more than 20 surgeries for contractures, skin grafts, tendon transfers, etc., Dr. Hanley’s classmate and dear friend urged her to do two years of family medicine, get boarded, and move on with her life.

“Dr. Polly Leonard, never one to mince words, pulled me from the dark place my mind, body and spirit had taken me back into the light. But isn’t that what we all do for our patients as Doctors of Osteopathic Medicine (DOs) every day,” said Dr. Hanley.

Taking Dr. Leonard’s advice, Dr. Hanley entered a family medicine residency program and then a full year fellowship in hyperbaric medicine and wound care.

“Dr. Mary Beth Hanley has given herself to the patients and her colleagues for decades and continues to do such,” said Dr. John Carbon, her husband and a fellow Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine. “She does not “give up” or drift and continues to go forward for the educational and clinical benefits of all.”

About South Carolina Osteopathic Medical Society

The South Carolina Osteopathic Medical Society (SCOMS) is the voice for osteopathic medicine in the state of South Carolina and works tirelessly to advocate for the nearly 2,000 Doctors of Osteopathic Medicine (DOs) practicing across the state. SCOMS’s membership is comprised of physicians, residents, medical students, and associates who have an unwavering passion for the osteopathic profession. The purpose of SCOMS is to promote the osteopathic medicine profession and to provide valuable services to its members. To learn more, visit www.scdos.org.

About Osteopathic Medicine

Osteopathic medicine is the fastest growing medical field in the U.S., and it treats the whole person - Mind, Body, and Spirit. Emphasizing a whole-person approach to treatment and care, osteopathic medicine combines the needs of the patient, current practice of medicine, and interconnectivity of the body’s ability to heal itself.



Doctors of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) are fully licensed physicians who practice the full scope of medicine in all specialties of the medical field, from pediatrics and geriatrics to sports medicine and trauma surgery. DOs work in partnership with patients to help them achieve a high level of wellness by focusing on health education, injury prevention, and disease prevention.

About Dr. Mary Hanley

Dr. Hanley received her medical degree from the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine in Biddeford, Maine and completed her Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine Residency at The Johns Hopkins Hospital, where she served as Chief Resident. She completed her Family Medicine Residency at Kent Hospital in Rhode Island, where she served as Chief Resident. Dr. Hanley also completed an Undersea and Hyperbaric Medicine Fellowship at Kent Hospital.

Prior to coming to Charleston, Dr. Hanley served as an Instructor in the Department of Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine at The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland; as a Staff Anesthesiologist at Anesthesia Associates of Torrington, PC and Charlotte Hungerford Hospital in Torrington, Connecticut; and as an Attending Physician and Interim Medical Director of the Undersea & Hyperbaric Medicine Fellowship Program Director of the Wound Recovery & Hyperbaric Medicine Center at Kent Hospital in Warwick, Rhode Island.

She practices the full range of wound and hyperbaric medicine with special interests in diabetic foot wounds, treating chronic wounds, and management of chronic venous insufficiency ulcers. She is the medical director for Roper St. Francis Healthcare's wound care and hyperbaric and undersea medicine departments.