



South Carolina's HEALTH IS OUR PRIORITY

Monthly Newsletter

July 2024

Welcome New Members!



[Dr. Gabriela Cox](#) is a Family Medicine Physician at Prisma Health Center for Family Medicine – Greer. She is a 2018 graduate of VCOM - Carolinas and completed her Family Medicine Residency at CoxHealth Care in Springfield, MO. She is originally from Sumter, SC.



[Dr. Thomas Balian](#) is a Third-Year Resident at the Spartanburg Regional Family Medicine Program. He is a graduate of University College of Osteopathic Medicine and has interest in Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine, Chronic Pain, Acute and Chronic Disease Management.

DHEC No Longer Exists- New Agency to Oversee Public Health Services in South Carolina

As of July 1, 2024, a new agency will oversee public health services across South Carolina. As of the same date, the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) will no longer exist and is being replaced by two new state agencies. One of those new agencies now oversees public health, and the other is over environmental services. The change comes after Gov. Henry McMaster signed a bill into law last year. [Read more.](#)

AOA House of Delegates

The American Osteopathic Association (AOA) convenes its House of Delegates on July 19-21 at the Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile. We are most appreciative of the delegates who are

SOUTH CAROLINA DELEGATION

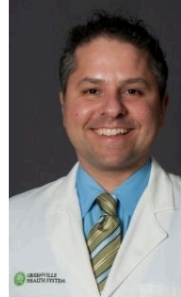
MEET YOUR DELEGATES WHO ARE ATTENDING
THE 2024 AOA HOUSE OF DELEGATES



**MATTHEW
CANNON, DO**



**JOHN GOULD, III,
DO**



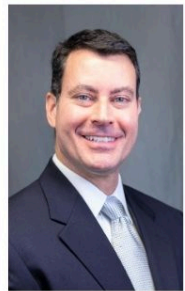
**RYAN HAKIMI,
DO**



**SCOTT
KLOSTERMAN, DO**



**TOMMY LINDSEY,
DO**



**RAYMOND
ROMANO, DO**



**OLIVIA MCLEAN,
OMSII**



Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Releases Proposed Rule for the 2025 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (PFS)

On July 10, the CMS released its 2025 PFS. The 2025 Medicare conversion factor is set to decrease for the fifth straight year by approximately 2.80 percent from \$33.2875 to \$32.3562. Similarly, the anesthesia conversion factor would be reduced from \$20.7739 to \$20.3340. This cut is largely the result of the expiration of a 2.93 percent temporary update to the conversion factor at the end of 2024 and a 0 percent baseline update for 2025 under the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act (MACRA). Unfortunately, these cuts coincide with ongoing growth in the cost to practice medicine as CMS projects the increase in the Medicare Economic Index (MEI) for 2025 will be 3.6 percent. To learn more, please refer to these documents:

- [Text of the proposed rule](#)
- CMS [Press Release](#)
- Physician Payment Schedule [Fact Sheet](#)
- Medicare Shared Savings Program [Fact Sheet](#)

Marchek Siblings Stay Connected with Upstate AHEC Through Academic Journey



A pair of siblings from Greer are giving back to current Upstate AHEC Health Careers students after completing the program themselves. Alex Marchek, MD is in his first year as a family medicine resident at Prisma Health Seneca. His younger sister by two years, Anna Marchek, is a second-year medical student at Edward Via College of Medicine (VCOM) Carolinas and a SCOMS Student Member. [Read more.](#)

Time to Renew Your SCOMS Membership?

SCOMS offers multiple membership categories to welcome a variety of individuals who practice in and support the Osteopathic profession.

Membership Category:	Effective July 1, 2024
Physician	\$175 or \$395 for 3 years
Retired	\$140
Military	\$140
Out-of-State Physician	\$90
Associate	\$90
Resident	\$50
Student / Intern	\$30

[Click here](#) to remain a member of the **ONLY** association in SC devoted to improving and promoting public health by the advancement of the science and profession of osteopathic medicine.



SCOMS

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