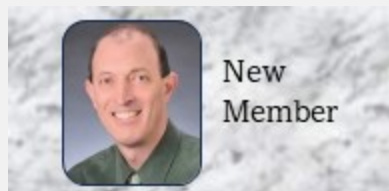




American Osteopathic College
of Occupational & Preventive Medicine

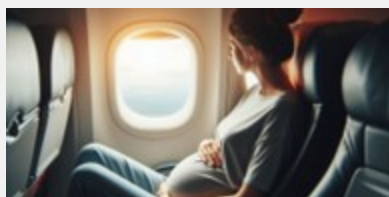
AOCOPM News, May 2025



Member Spotlight: Rob Pedowitz, DO, FACOFP, FAB

Robert N. Pedowitz, DO, FACOFP, FAB, is a new member of the American Osteopathic College of Occupational and Preventive Medicine. He will be beginning a position as Vice President, Chief Medical Officer, Occupational Health and Safety at Hackensack Meridian Health in New Jersey in May 2025. For the last 4 years, he has served as the Regional Medical Director for Atlantic Medical Group Monmouth Region (part of Atlantic Health System in New Jersey), where he has overseen clinical operations for numerous primary care and specialty practices. He also served for 12 years as Medical Director of Employee and Occupational Health, and as the Medical Director for Family Practice of CentraState. Previously he also held several other roles as a Medical Director and practicing Family Physician.

[Read More](#)



Doctor Aids In-Air Emergency Birth — With a Wild Plot Twist

via Medscape

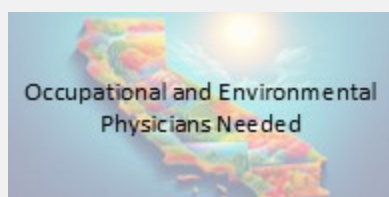
By Dale Glenn, MD, as told to Sarah Yahr Tucker

*Emergencies happen anywhere, anytime, and sometimes medical professionals find themselves in situations where they are the only ones who can help. **Is There a Doctor in the House?** is a Medscape series telling these stories.*

[https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/doctor-aids-air-emergency-birth-wild-plot-twist-2025a1000ae9?](https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/doctor-aids-air-emergency-birth-wild-plot-twist-2025a1000ae9?ecd=WNL_trdalrt_pos1_250501_etid7397350&uac=349327MR&impID=7397350)

[ecd=WNL_trdalrt_pos1_250501_etid7397350&uac=349327MR&impID=7397350](https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/doctor-aids-air-emergency-birth-wild-plot-twist-2025a1000ae9?ecd=WNL_trdalrt_pos1_250501_etid7397350&uac=349327MR&impID=7397350)

For those interested in learning more about in-flight emergencies, see [AOCOPM's OMED24 enduring material](#) for Dr. Birchfield's presentation, Airline Emergency Medical Kits- Current Standards and Future Improvements.



WOEMA Position Paper and Call-to-Action: California needs more physicians specializing in Occupational and Environmental Medicine (OEM)

Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine

April 18, 2025

Sharip, Akbar MD, MPH; Papanek, Paul MD, MPH Conlon, Craig MD, PhD; Gean, Constantine J. MD, MS; Khan, Alya MD, MPH; Harrison, Robert MD, MPH; Berenji, Manijeh MD, MPH

The US ratio of OEM physicians-to-workers is 2 per 100,000 workers, compared with a ratio of 4 to 40 per 100,000 workers in most industrialized nations. California's shortage of OEM physicians costs the state's employers over \$1 billion annually in needless workers' compensation losses and other health impacts. Graduating 40 additional OEM residents in the state annually would cost an extra \$27 to 32 million per year.

The return-on-investment from increasing the number of OEM residencies and residency slots in California would be substantial, approaching at least 10-to-1, benefitting the state's workers and employers, and its environmental quality.

[WOEMA Paper.pdf](#)



ACIP Votes on 2025 Vaccine Changes After Scheduling Delay

via Medscape

by Sandra Adamson Fryhofer, MD

This first ACIP meeting under the new administration was highly anticipated. It was originally scheduled for February but was postponed without a definite reschedule date. Finally, 2 months later, a compressed version of this meeting was convened. There were votes on three vaccine categories. A previously planned vote on flu vaccination was not included.

https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/acip-votes-2025-vaccine-changes-after-scheduling-delay-2025a1000add?ecd=WNL_trdalrt_pos1_250503_etid7401661&uac=349327MR&impID=7401661



Nominations Open!

The American Osteopathic College of Occupational and Preventive Medicine (AOCOPM) needs dedicated officers and leaders to champion the growth of our Osteopathic Occupational and Preventive Medicine specialties. Serving on our Board doesn't just mean lending a hand—it's about shaping the future of public health, prevention, and our dynamic community of professionals.

Our mission? To provide high-quality education in occupational, environmental, and preventive medicine, and to empower our members to take the lead—both within AOCOPM and across other organizations focused on prevention. If you'd like to learn more about our Board and Officers, check out the AOCOPM [Committees](#) page. Want to chat directly with someone on the Board? Visit our [Leadership page](#) (you'll need to log in since we keep personal contact info private) or simply reach out to the [AOCOPM office](#) with any questions.

Ready to take a big step toward advancing our specialties? Join us to make a real impact on health and prevention—become an AOCOPM officer or Board member and help set the course for the future.

Let us know you're interested: [Future Leader](#)

NOTE: The Board has an immediate vacancy to fill due to Dr. Birchfield's appointment to the AOBPM. His [Trustee](#) term will be fulfilled at the end of 2025.



Why AOA Board Certification?

AOBPM Chairman, Dr. Stanley Miller, and AOBPM Certification Manager, Diane Georgelos, explain AOBPM Board Certification and why it's important: <https://youtu.be/rx5uL9o3VgI?si=-IW8lhxqxcnTYD8H>



Registration Open for OMED25

Join us in Nashville, September 25-28, 2025, for our Annual Educational Conference held in conjunction with [OMED25](#)! AOCOPM Members may use the \$100 [discount code](#) (Members must login).

AOA Members who Register AND Reserve a Hotel Room June through July 31 will receive the special promotional price of only \$675! Added Bonus: The first 500 AOA members who take advantage of this exclusive promotion will receive two \$15 food vouchers to utilize at the convention center.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The \$100 discount code is not valid during the June through July 31 member bonus rate.

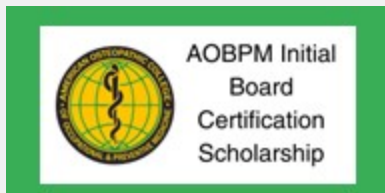
AOCOPM will also be offering the [OPAM Workshop: Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners' Course](#) as a LIVE pre-conference workshop on September 25th.



Save the Date for DO Day 2026

Save the Date - DO Day 2026!

- **Virtual:** Saturday, March 21 and Sunday, March 22
- **In-person:** Wednesday, March 25 and Thursday, March 26
- The Westin Arlington (Arlington, VA)
- Hotel room rate: \$264 per night plus tax



Board Scholarships Available

AOCOPM now offers scholarships for initial AOBPM certification exams.

Learn more: <https://www.aocopm.org/aobpm-scholarship>

Contact Info:

AOCOPM
800-558-8686

Jeffrey LeBoeuf, Executive Director - jeffrey@aocopm.org
Ronda LeBoeuf, Office Manager - ronda@aocopm.org

Did We Miss Something? Do You Have News to Share?

Send your information to ronda@aocopm.org
(You can post on AOCOPM's social media, too)

Connect with Us:

