



Ohio Society of Pathologists

Spring Update

June 12th, 2020

The Meeting Was Cancelled, But the Work Continues!

With the Spring Meeting of the Ohio Society of Pathologists cancelled, we missed seeing familiar faces in Dublin. However, the society continues to work on your behalf! Members of the OSP Board of Governors have worked together and independently to continue efforts to promote the practice of pathology in Ohio. In lieu of our semi-annual business meeting for the general membership, some of the more important points are highlighted below.

Out-of-Network Billing Legislation Update

Ohio politicians have their sights on the elimination of balance (“surprise”) billing for out-of-network services. All parties, including the OSP, are interested in removing this burden from our patients. However, the OSP believes the solution needs to hold physicians and insurance companies equally accountable. Such legislation is likely to have profound effects beyond the actual billing for out-of-network services. Specifically, legislation that has currently been drafted, including House Bill 388, could have a catastrophic impact on the ability of pathologists to negotiate fair contracts with insurance companies, resulting in decreased reimbursement across the board.

House Bill 388 passed through voting in the Ohio House of Representatives. The bill lacks many features recommended by medical specialty consensus groups, providing no method of ensuring network adequacy or the presence of a transparent pricing

database. Instead, the bill utilizes a payment formula that the OSP and CAP view as extremely detrimental to physicians in the contracting process.

The OSP Board of Governors has worked alongside Barry Ziman (CAP, Director of Legislative and Political Affairs), Dr. Jonathan Myles, MD (CAP, Economic Affairs Committee Chair), and Columbus-based lobbyists David Corey (PACA, inc) and Mike Dittoe (High Bridge Consulting). The coalition is working to implement critical changes in the bill as it goes through the Ohio Senate.

What can you do?

- Donations to OSP's legislative fund will be necessary to sustain our current level of involvement in this and similar issues. Donations can now be made online or by mail!
 - To donate online (increments of \$100): Please click the "Legislative Fund" link in the Membership section of the OSP website (<https://pathology.osu.edu/osp/osp.html>)
 - To donate by mail (any dollar amount): Please use the 2020 Annual dues form (<https://pathology.osu.edu/osp/forms/2020DuesStatement.pdf>)
- While we haven't seen eye-to-eye with OSMA every step of the way, our path to a successful outcome is much clearer if we work together. Join OSMA and let them know you are very concerned with the Out of Network billing issue in Ohio. [Request their collaboration with the OSP and CAP!](#)

Want to know more about the OON legislative issue?

- [House Bill 388](#)
- [OSP Objection to HB 388](#) - 5/4/20
- [Dr. Lori Elwood \(OSP, Past President\) testifies in opposition to HB 388](#) - 12/11/19
- [OSP objection to HB 388](#) - 11/17/19
- [Consensus Principles on Insurance Coverage For Out-of-Network Care](#)

COVID Resources

Pathology and Laboratory Medicine has been instrumental during the COVID-19 pandemic. OSP has compiled a list of resources to help you stay up to date on the latest information.

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- WHO: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>
 - FDA Emergency Use Authorization: <https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/mcm-legal-regulatory-and-policy-framework/emergency-use-authorization>
 - CDC Webpage specifically for Laboratories: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/lab/index.html>
 - CAP COVID-19 Update Page: <https://www.cap.org/covid-19>
 - ASCP Town Hall Series: <https://www.ascp.org/content/learning/ascp-virtual-town-hall-series>
 - IDSA Guidelines for Diagnostic Testing: <https://www.idsociety.org/practice-guideline/covid-19-guideline-diagnostics/>
 - ASM Resource page: <https://asm.org/Press-Releases/2020/COVID-19-Resources>

Member Highlight - Dr. Shelley Odronic, MD

OSP Board member, Shelley Odronic, MD, recently appeared on a podcast for family doctors explaining the current utility and limitations of SARS-CoV-2 antibody testing. Click the link on the first page to listen to the podcast. It offers free CME available to all physicians.

Listen to the podcast and claim CME here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/COVIDAntibody>

OSP is interested in learning how you promote pathology. We would love to highlight your hard work! Send us your stories of pathology outreach. E-mail your response to veliaacampana@aol.com

Ohio Work From Home

OSP President, Sean Kirby, MD, teamed up with CAP by sending letters to key Ohio representatives. Subsequently, representatives Troy Balderson and Steve Stivers signed a letter to Health and Human services, requesting increased access for pathologists to remotely sign out cases. [Additional details of the changes can be found here.](#)

Free CME/SAMs Opportunities

For members looking to complete their CME and SAMs requirements, please see some unique opportunities below.

USCAP lectures - In light of the COVID pandemic, the following lectures are currently offered for free. Check them out soon before these codes expire.

- [Common and Challenging Diagnostic Dilemmas on Frozen Section Service](#) (18.25 CME/SAMS) - Use code *USCAPfrozen* at checkout
- [Challenges in Hematopathology](#) (12.25 CME/SAMS) - Use code *USCAPHemPath* at checkout.
- [Diagnostic Challenges in Soft Tissue and Bone Pathology](#) (11.5 CME/SAMs) - Use code *lkvnqvb4hs* at checkout.

ARUP Video Lectures: (<https://arup.utah.edu/education/videoIndex.php>)

- Numerous video lectures provided on a wide array of AP and CP topics, the majority of which offer 0.5 to 1.5 CME or SAMs credit.

Fall Meeting

The OSP Fall Meeting is still scheduled for 10/17/2020. Like everyone else, we are uncertain what the fall will bring. Additional details will be posted to the website as soon as they are available.

Contact Info:

Ohio Society of Pathologists

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