OPTI Policy Issues for the 21st Century

Mark Notman
AOA Health Policy Fellow
Associate Professor
Executive Director, Administrative Services
Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine
East Lansing, MI

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What are OPTIs?

- Osteopathic Postdoctoral Training Institutions
- 18 consortia in 36 states
- Goals
  - Shared resources
  - Coordination and standardization
  - Best practices
  - Trainee Competencies
Thesis

- Time to seriously review OPTI performance and purpose
- Expand coordination of AOA regulatory bodies to enhance continuum of osteopathic medical education
- Enact enforced standards for program quality
Contestion

- OPTIs at crossroads
  - Tremendous growth
    - Medical schools
    - Students
    - Postdoctoral training
  - Shifting context
    - Loss of hospitals
    - Lack of osteopathic training programs
    - Increased use of ACGME programs
Current status of OPTIs

- **Variability**
  - Finance
  - Operations
  - Governance

- Duplicative and uncoordinated roles and responsibilities (OPTIs, AOA, AACOM, COMs, hospitals, specialty programs)

- Relative ineffectiveness of many OPTIs
4 Recommendations

- Initial framework for discussion, planning, and implementation
  - Increase effectiveness of OPTIs
  - Help ensure viability of osteopathic medical education across continuum
  - Remain relevant to US health care needs
Recommendation No. 1

- Comprehensive review of all OPTIs
  - Expenditures
  - Governance
  - Administrative and educational support
  - Quality of educational programs
Recommendation No. 2

- Finance to promote equitable distribution of GME funds based on actual expenses and shared operating costs
  - Quality education
  - Accountable governance
Recommendation No. 3

- Develop and implement standards
  - Training capacity
  - Economies of scale and efficiencies
  - Trainee competencies
Recommendation No. 4

- Link accreditation to adequate capacity and quality
  - Postdoctoral programs
  - Medical schools
Contact Information

Mark Notman, Ph.D.
notman@msu.edu
517.353.5470

MSUCOM
A317 East Fee Hall
East Lansing, MI 48824