

District VI Trustee Report / January 2025

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To update you on current topics and relevant issues to our specialty, I present the following:

AT A GLANCE

- After 3 years, AAOMS and the North Carolina Society of OMS were successful in pushing back on a proposal that would have required a separate anesthesia provider be used on patients receiving DS/GA. Favorable anesthesia regulations anesthesia went into effect in the state in June, 2024.
- AAOMS is working with the New Hampshire Society of OMS on their efforts to oppose a new proposal that would mandate a separate anesthesia provider when treating patients aged 0-8 with DS/GA. The New Hampshire Board of Dental Examiners met on Oct. 7 but did not vote on the anesthesia package due to numerous additional edits that needed to be made. Very recent talks are very positive with respect to maintaining our team anesthesia model. We will keep you updated ...
- CMS has just released 2025 proposed rules, proposing expanded Medicare coverage for medically necessary dental services, additional facility payments for ASCs consistent with AAOMS recommendations, and proposing a 2.8% cut in Medicare physician fees. AAOMS is reviewing and will respond.
- ASDA/AAOMS/AAP Model State Anesthesia Regulations available upon request. Contact squenter@aaoms.org.
- Registration for the 2025 AAOMS Day on the Hill, scheduled for March 25-26, will open Nov. 18. AAOMS will cover one night's hotel and roundtrip coach airfare for a limited number of first-time attendees on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration information will be available at AAOMS.org/DayontheHill
- Courses to satisfy the training requirement for DEA licenses/renewals (MATE Act) are now complimentary to members through 2025. Visit <https://www.aaoms.org/member-center/member-news/dea-announces-mate-act-training-requirement>.
- AAOMS now provides a CE Online Dashboard to manage your CE – visit CEonline.AAOMS.org/My-dashboard.
- Upcoming Clinical, Coding and Billing and Practice Management Webinars can be found at AAOMS.org/ceonline. Click on live webinars.
- Congress lowered the 2024 Medicare physician payment cut from 3.37 percent to 1.68 percent from March 9 through end of the year. AAOMS continues to support various bills to mitigate future year cuts.
- ***Thanks to AAOMS advocacy***, facility fees have increased exponentially for both hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers (ASCs) in 2024. Visit [Promote access to facility-based dental procedures | AAOMS](#) for infographics and more.
- At the recent House of Delegates in Orlando, a resolution was passed defining the ***deadline for OBEAM completion as December 31st, 2026. Please note this and plan well ahead to avoid a rush to complete your OBEAM requirement.***

ANESTHESIA

- AAOMS continues to gather essential data from third party entities such as privately billed insurance claims to be utilized to advocate for the safety of the OMS anesthesia team model and offers the Dental Anesthesia Incident Reporting System (DAIRS) (AAOMS.org/DAIRS) to report adverse events.
- Dr. Greg Ness's presentation on the anesthesia evaluation program to the 2024 AAOMS House of Delegates was recorded as an AAOMS On-the-Go podcast and for those interested, is available for viewing on aaoms.org/media/podcasting.

OBEAM AT STATE AND REGIONAL SOCIETY MEETINGS

- AAOMS National Simulation Program offers oral and maxillofacial surgeons the opportunity to practice critical techniques for administering and monitoring office-based anesthesia through best-practice protocols during simulation of various real-life emergency airway situations.
- AAOMS is providing the opportunity for OMS state societies and regional societies to offer the Office-Based Emergency Airway Management (OBEAM) module, making access easier for surgeons.
- During the two-hour OBEAM module, participants review and practice concepts and skills for sedation monitoring and techniques for supplemental oxygen, opening an airway, bag-valve-mask (BVM) ventilation using one- and two-handed techniques, laryngeal mask airway (LMA) insertion and use of the Airtraq laryngoscope for endotracheal intubation (a procedure during which a tube is inserted into the windpipe). Ventilation parameters are manipulated so difficult BVM can be practiced and mastered after mastery of BVM in a normal configuration.
- Hands-on session will utilize five (5) of the AAOMS Laerdal 3G simulators, allowing 10 surgeons to participate during each two-hour session.
- Registration will be managed through AAOMS. Registration is \$900 per OMS and will offer 6 hours of continuing education (CE).
- AAOMS will provide the simulators, station equipment, staff, tech support and member facilitators to run the OBEAM course.
- For details and availability, please contact Mary Allaire-Schnitzer at AAOMS at 800-822-6637 ext. 4315 or via email at mallaire@aaoms.org

EDUCATION/EVENTS

- The ***Dental Implant Conference 2024 (DIC)*** occurred December 5-7, 2024, at the Sheraton Grand Chicago Riverwalk, Downtown Chicago. This remains one of the "Premier" Implant conferences of the year and will combine surgical and restorative tracks this year. **OBEAM** was also available to complete your simulation training requirements. Be sure to claim continuing education credits via the mobile app or at AAOMS.org/MyCE, by March 7. ***Please keep your schedule open for next year; December 4-6, 2025.***
- AAOMS offers a Clinical CE Subscription service that will allow OMS members to access the entire on-demand Clinical CE Online Library courses for a full year. This 24/7 access to the AAOMS clinical course catalog includes over 100 hours of content and is updated with at least 20 new

courses annually. The Clinical CE Subscription is \$249 for a full year. More information can be found at [AAOMS.org/CESubscription](https://www.aaoms.org/CESubscription).

- For 2025 offerings of the Office-Based Emergency Airway Management (**OBEAM**) at the Daniel M. Laskin Institute for OMS Education and Innovation at AAOMS headquarters in Rosemont, Ill, please visit [aaoms.org](https://www.aaoms.org). OMSs can expect to master techniques for administering and monitoring the office-based delivery of anesthesia through intensive, real-life experiences. OBEAM modules are limited to AAOMS members and fellows at a rate of \$900 per participant. Sessions are not yet available for professional staff.
- Also, two webinar bundles consisting of recordings of several coding and billing webinars are now available for \$495 each, providing an opportunity to learn while saving 35 percent over buying them individually.
- To see upcoming AAOMS meetings, webinars and other educational opportunities available, please visit <https://www.aaoms.org/meetings-exhibitions/upcoming-events>
- Beginning Jan. 1, OMS and their staff will be able to register for the **AAOMS Coding Certificate Program (CCP)** bundle at a discounted rate when compared to purchasing each course individually. The CCP Bundle will consist of Basic Coding, OMS Billing and Beyond the Basics Coding.
- If you are looking for information on offering continuing education credits for state or regional OMS societies through the AAOMS joint provider ship program, please visit www.aaoms.org/jointprovidership. A new video has been added to the existing resources on the AAOMS web site to help guide you through the process. Questions can be directed to the Continuing Education Department at conteducate@aaoms.org.
- **NEW!** A new transcript feature in the CE Online Dashboard can be used to store outside continuing education credits within your AAOMS account. Not only can you store all AAOMS CE Online courses automatically, but the feature also allows you to import external credits, so all CE credits can be kept in one place. Visit CEonline.AAOMS.org/My-dashboard to learn more about this new feature.

GOVERNANCE AND MEMBERSHIP

- Review annual membership reports, rosters and advocacy resources via the dedicated Connect group for Regional and State OMS society officers and executive staff. Contact membership@aaoms.org with any questions.
- Interested in sharing your OMS story with your colleagues? Participate in AAOMS's Member Spotlight series. More information is available on [aaoms.org/memberspotlight](https://www.aaoms.org/memberspotlight).
- **Support your professional staff and save** – learn more about allied staff membership at [AAOMS.org](https://www.aaoms.org) or email membership@aaoms.org.

ADVOCACY

- State legislative sessions are closed for 2024. The State Legislative Tracking Map on the AAOMS website provides quick access to the status of all issues impacting OMS in 2025. Access at [AAOMS.org/TrackingMap](https://www.aaoms.org/TrackingMap).
- Registration for the **2025 AAOMS Day on the Hill**, scheduled for **March 25-26**, opened Nov. 18. AAOMS will cover one night's hotel and roundtrip coach airfare for a limited number of first-time attendees on a

first-come, first-served basis. ***This provides you a great opportunity to appreciate how our AAOMS advocacy works on “The Hill”.*** Registration information will be available at AAOMS.org/DayontheHill

- AAOMS continues to promote its 2025 federal priority issues: the Resident Education Deferred Interest (REDI) Act, Ensuring Lasting Smiles Act (ELSA) / (*which is awaiting reintroduction*), and the RAPID Reserve Act.
- States facing legislative or regulatory challenges specific to OMS and in need of financial assistance are invited to apply for the AAOMS State Advocacy Grant – or **SAG**. The program, which requires a dollar-for-dollar match by the state society, are limited in number and available on a first-come first-served basis. Additional requirements, including the application, are available at AAOMS.org/SAG.
- **AAOMS Members** are **encouraged** to sign up for advocacy alerts by texting “AAOMS” to 50457. Campaigns on the REDI Act, the DOC Access Act, drug shortages, and reversing the remainder of the calendar year 2024 Medicare physician payment cuts, are available at AAOMS.org/TakeAction.
- For 2025, CMS has proposed Medicare coverage for medically necessary dental services inextricably linked to successful medical outcomes for patients with End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) who are undergoing dialysis. Read AAOMS’s comments [to CMS](#).
- For 2025, CMS has proposed Medicare coverage for medically necessary dental services inextricably linked to successful medical outcomes for patients with End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) who are undergoing dialysis. AAOMS staff is working with CHPCR to provide comments.
- In 2023 and 2024, advocacy by AAOMS, ADA and AAPD resulted in increased and expanded facility fees for hospitals and ASCs and AAOMS provided state societies and members with a toolkit and infographic to encourage hospitals, ASCs and state Medicaid agencies to utilize the improved/expanded facility fees. For 2025, CMS has proposed to add an additional 16 CDT codes – recommended by AAOMS – to the ASC Covered Procedures List. Covered Procedures List. Read [AAOMS’s comments to CMS](#).
- A multi-specialty, practice expense survey is underway, to provide updated OMS practice expense data to CMS for purposes of reimbursement. Contacted AAOMS members are encouraged to participate.
- AAOMS continues to monitor the No Surprises Act, with summaries, FAQs and other resources available at www.aaoms.org/practice-resources/coding-reimbursement.

INFORMATIONAL CAMPAIGN

- **MyOMS.org** continues to grow in popularity – with about 1 million page views each year and more than 65,000 visitors to the website using the Find a Surgeon function.
- **More than 200 videos and 20 infographics** are featured on the MyOMS.org website and are available for members to download and use on their practice sites.
- AAOMS continues to get a lot of free advertising (total broadcast audience of 1.4 billion) from **seven TV Public Service Announcements** – with a cumulative equivalent ad dollar value of more than **\$34.7 million**; and radio PSA’s have generated an equivalent ad dollar value of more than **\$5.3 million**.
- A **public-facing** podcast series – **OMS Voices: An AAOMS Podcast** – debuted in 2023. Members can share the podcasts on their personal websites.

COMMUNICATIONS

- AAOMS's **member-facing** podcast series – called **AAOMS On the Go** – launched in 2022 and is publishing new podcasts twice a month. The podcasts can be downloaded or listened to on AAOMS.org/podcasts or popular podcast platforms such as Spotify. Topics cover research, advocacy, affiliate organization news, JOMS, practice management improvements and more.

OMS FOUNDATION

- The energy and excitement of the 2024 AAOMS Annual Meeting was palpable at the OMS Foundation booth, where more than 20 generous donors joined in supporting the OMS Foundation mission.
- Thank you to every donor who supported the Foundation's mid-year 2024 appeal, and to US Oral Surgery Management for its generous \$35,000 gift match. With the match, \$116,848 was raised for the Annual Fund and the programs it supports.
- A gift match challenge from Beacon Oral Specialists, who committed to match every gift received during September up to \$35,000, resulted in more than \$43,609.33 was raised September 1 – 30, pushing the month's fundraising total well past the \$35,000 mark, including new, Silver **OMSFIRE** donor, Dr. Robert Moskal.
- Thirteen (13) donors have joined the **OMSFIRE** roster in 2024
- The Foundation funded 2 of the 4 FEDA grants awarded by AAOMS in 2024, offering financial support and mentorship to ambitious junior faculty to encourage them to pursue careers in academia.
- Applications are accepted year-round for **GIVE**, which offers up to \$2,500 to reimburse travel expenses for residents serving with international humanitarian healthcare teams. We are proud to announce that we have funded 14 residents to participate in 2024.

AAOMS Advantage

- HP and ODP Business Solutions are offering AAOMS members HP high-yield cartridges at a special price. These HP high-yield cartridges print up to three times as many pages as a standard cartridge. To access all available discounts through ODP's Partner Program, email aaomsadvantage@aaoms.org.

Again, thank you for your continuing confidence and support.



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