A Message from the President, Karen P. Gold, M.D.

COVID-19 has inflicted several changes and challenges to our daily lives.

One such change is the recent mask ordinance for the City of Tulsa. The Tulsa City Council approved a revised version of the mask ordinance proposed by Mayor G.T. Bynum on Wednesday, July 15th. It will expire on Nov. 30 or when the mayor’s civil emergency orders related to COVID-19 have expired -- whichever comes first. It can also be changed by repeal, modification or extension by Tulsa City Council. Ascension St. John, Healthier Oklahoma Coalition, Hillcrest Healthcare System, Jenks Public Schools, Oklahoma Nurses Association, Oklahoma State Medical Association, St. Francis Health System, Saint Simeon’s Senior Living Community, and others sent letters of support to the Tulsa City Council before the vote. Additionally, the TCMS Board of Directors voted to endorse the letter submitted by George Monks, MD, President of OSMA. At TCMS, we continue to work with our state and local health officials on assessing the data and trends of COVID-19 in order to respond and give the appropriate recommendations.

A significant challenge that we have seen is the effect on rotations for our medical students and residents. In late March, both OU-TU School of Community Medicine and OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine cancelled rotations for safety concerns. This has set back these students and residents 3 months into their experiential learning. The upper level MS 3 and 4s have gone back to clinical rotations – but in a somewhat limited capacity. At TCMS, we are working with OU-TU, OSU, students, and residents to find ways to address this challenge. We hope to provide you with more information, including ways that you can help our students and residents during this challenging time.

In response to these changes and challenges, we’ve seen some outstanding Continuing Medical Education opportunities from the team at OSMA. These include:

- “Telemedicine During Today’s Times”
- “COVID-19: Telling My Story” which included Chris Sudduth, MD, TCMS Board Member
- “Maintaining Mental Wellness During COVID-19”
- “Racial Disparities in America and Oklahoma” with Jabraan Pasha, MD, associate professor of Medicine and assistant dean of Student Affairs for the OU School of Community Medicine.

Dr. Jabraan Pasha, MD is a native of Tulsa, OK. He received his medical degree from The University of Kansas School of Medicine and completed his Internal Medicine Residency Training the OU-TU School of Community Medicine. One of his major academic interests is the impact of implicit bias on patient care and society. He has presented his workshop Unlocking Implicit Bias over 40 times, including sessions for the American Association of Medical Colleges (AAMC), Mayo Clinic, and internationally in Paris, France; Porto, Portugal; and most recently in Ottawa, Canada.

These virtual courses can be found at: https://www.okmed.org/web/Online/Membership/CME/Online/Education/Upcoming_Events.aspx?hkey=bad9a4ff-c93f-4485-9f81-9c4639452aa7.

Another change affecting Tulsa County Medical Society is this year’s Annual Meeting. The TCMS Board of Directors voted to hold the 2020 TCMS Annual Meeting Virtually due to COVID-19, for the health and safety of all those who attend. More details will be made available soon.

Karen P. Gold, MD, MSCl
NEW ROOF FOR TCMS BUILDING

July 17, 2020 - The Tulsa County Medical Society, C. Wallace Hooser, MD Building, received a new roof for the first time in nearly twenty years. R Turley Roofing completed the project on July 18, 2020. The two-story building at 5315 S. Lewis officially opened in October 2002. The C. Wallace Hooser, MD Building offices the staff of Tulsa County Medical Society, TCMS Foundation, and Project TCMS. In addition, a board room holds 14 people while a meeting room on the second floor can accommodate up to 100 guests. For more information about using the facilities, please contact Joetta Cunningham, Director of Operations, at 918.743.6184 or joetta@tcmsok.org.

PROJECT TCMS UPDATE

The Tulsa County Medical Society Foundation, Project TCMS (Tulsa Charitable Medical Services) continues to provide non-emergent specialty care to low-income, uninsured Tulsa County residents. Since inception, Project TCMS has provided $7,039,458 in donated care to 1,206 referrals including 4,518 services from 183 volunteer physicians. In March 2020 when COVID-19 caused the shutdown of many safety-net clinics and cancelation of elective surgeries, we observed a reduction in referrals to Project TCMS. However, since the reopening of clinics and approval of elective surgeries, we have seen a surge of referrals to the program. We anticipated this effect and have worked to meet the increased needs of our physicians and patients. For more information about how you can volunteer with Project TCMS, contact Pam Oppelt at pam@tcmsok.org or 918.743.9363.

TCMS Foundation, Project TCMS, Receives $25,000 Grant from the Ralph and Frances McGill Foundation

Thank you to the Ralph and Frances McGill Foundation for their recent gift in support of Project TCMS. Project TCMS remains the only resource in the Tulsa community providing non-emergent, specialty care at no charge to the patient and with no reimbursement to partner physicians, hospitals and health care vendors. Under this structure, no income is generated and our community partners will continue to be an important part of our ongoing operation. For more information about giving to Project TCMS, contact Mark McElreath at mark@tcmsok.org or 918.743.6184.
After surveying OSMA’s delegates, our leadership has made the decision to hold the August Board of Trustees and House of Delegates meetings virtually. Visit [https://www.okmed.org/web/Online/Events/2020_Annual_Meeting.aspx](https://www.okmed.org/web/Online/Events/2020_Annual_Meeting.aspx) for updates and links to join the meeting.

**Saturday, August 8**

9:00 a.m. Board of Trustees Meeting  
1:00 p.m. House of Delegates Meeting

**Call for Delegates**

If you are interested in serving as a delegate at the 2020 House of Delegates virtual annual meeting August 8th, please submit your name to Mark McElreath at 918.743.6184 or mark@tcmsok.org. Resolutions and more information can be found at: [https://www.okmed.org/web/Online/Events/2020_Annual_Meeting.aspx](https://www.okmed.org/web/Online/Events/2020_Annual_Meeting.aspx)

---

**COVID-19 UPDATES**

As of July 23, the Tulsa Health Department (THD) confirmed 6,856 positive COVID-19 cases in Tulsa County. 5,740 residents have recovered and 89 have lost their lives. Data and trends are updated at [www.tulsa-health.org/COVID19](http://www.tulsa-health.org/COVID19).

We continue to see increases in new cases compared to the previous week, especially in the under 50 population with the average age around 37 and accounting for 75% of all cases. The spike can largely be attributed to more people becoming lax on following CDC and THD best practices. Mask wearing, social distancing and frequent sanitation efforts remain the top way to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our area.

THD has noticed these trends for the week of July 12-18:

- We saw the largest increase in cases for those age 5 – 17, with over 18% increase compared to the previous week
- The group we saw the second largest increase in cases was the 0 – 4 age group, with an almost 12% increase compared to the previous week.
- While we had a decrease in hospitalizations last week, we saw an increase in deaths.
- The average age of those hospitalized also decreased.
- 34% of all hospitalizations are in people under age 50.
- 71% of new cases in Tulsa County were residents of Tulsa, and 13% were residents of Broken Arrow.

---

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

**JABRAAN S. PASHA, MD**, Internal Medicine, 4444 E. 41st Street. 918-660-3467. Medical Education: The University of Kansas, Kansas City, KS, 2006-2010. Residency: Mayo Clinic Arizona, Scottsdale, AZ, Internal Medicine, 2010-2013. Currently, he is an Associate Program Director for the Internal Medicine Residency program, as well as Faculty Director of Student Recruitment & Pipeline programs for the OU-TU School of Medicine.
