



**Tulsa County
Medical Society**

TULSA MEDICINE

A Newsletter for the Medical Community

October 2021



Project TCMS

A Shining Light in our
Community

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Diane M. Heaton,
MD

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TCMS PRESIDENT'S LETTER

DIANE M. HEATON, MD

Many young or new physicians may not be aware of Project TCMS (Tulsa Charitable Medical Services) or its outstanding contributions to serving the uninsured people of the Tulsa community. The development of Project TCMS started several years before the program received its first referral in February of 2012.

What is Project TCMS?

Project TCMS is a community partnership to improve access to specialty health care for low-income, uninsured residents of Tulsa County. It combines care provided in primary care safety net clinics in Tulsa County with donated specialty care in a coordinated referral program led by the Tulsa County Medical Society Foundation. It is designed to enhance the work of existing safety net clinics and other community agencies.

Why is Project TCMS needed?

According to the 2019 U.S. Census Report, 108,157 residents under age 65 in Tulsa County do not have health insurance. Often, those without health insurance are working in one or more low-wage jobs without health benefits, earning too much to qualify for programs like Medicaid, but not earning enough to afford health insurance and still meet other essential needs such as food, clothing, and housing. Many of the low-income, uninsured receives primary care services through safety net clinics. Before, safety net physicians and clinic staff worked the phones until they found a specialist willing to help. This was an expensive and inefficient way to locate services, and put pressure on the same physicians to provide charity care.

How does Project TCMS work?

Project TCMS serves as a centralized point of entry for safety net clinics' patient specialty referrals. We maintain a referral database to guarantee that only the number of patients each physician has agreed to accept will be referred to their practice. Patients are assigned to specialists on a rotating basis to ensure an equal distribution of these patients among the physicians who signed up to participate. A similar rotating assignment protocol will be used for the hospital-based surgeries and inpatient care as needed.

Patients are referred to Project TCMS by health care providers working in the safety net clinics. **However, if you have examined a patient and think they may qualify for our program, please contact the Project TCMS office to find out more information.**

Project TCMS staff assigns a specialist to each patient referral. Before an appointment is made, the specialist is provided pertinent clinical information and preliminary diagnosis via internet referral management system. Appointments are arranged between sending clinic and receiving specialist after medical records are reviewed and determined



Diane M. Heaton, MD

TCMS President

appropriate utilizing web based referral management system. If additional testing is necessary prior to visit, this will be arranged by safety net clinic. Most appointments will be scheduled on a first available basis. Our Project TCMS volunteer physicians are not asked to see patients outside of regular business hours.

Below you will see just the amount of impact our program has on the Tulsa County Community.

Community Impact

Donated Care - \$8,060,768
Program Services - 5,094
Program Referrals - 1,375
Volunteer Physicians - 185
Hospital Partners - 12
Healthcare Vendors - 60

Specialties Served:

Orthopedics - 42.8%	Ophthalmology - 17.4%
ENT - 11.5%	Dermatology - 8.9%
Urology - 7.4%	General Surgery - 5.9%
Gynecology - 2.5%	Other - 3.5%

It is amazing what can be done when our Medical Society collaborates with other groups to serve uninsured patients.

The funding of Project TCMS involves multiple community partners. Supporting partners include The Anne & Henry Zarrow Foundation, OSMA Foundation, Ralph & Frances McGill Foundation, Maxine & Jack Zarrow Foundation, Sarkeys Foundation, Mary K. Chapman Foundation, Grace & Franklin Bernsen Foundation, George Kaiser Family Foundation, Morningcrest Healthcare Foundation and financial support from our TCMS members.

To make a tax-deductible donation, mail your check to the TCMS Foundation office or visit www.tcmsok.org/donate-now to give online.

The TCMS wishes to thank all of the contributing parties. None of this success could have been obtained without all the groups working together. We also wish to thank the staff at Project TCMS for their dedication and expertise in helping people without insurance obtain the medical care they so desperately need.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Pam Oppelt at 918.743.9363 or email pam@tcmsok.org.

I also would like to thank and commend all of the physicians donating time and resources to serve our community. Project Access is a shining light in our Medical Society community.

Diane M. Heaton, M.D., President

TULSA COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY
Physicians Advancing Health Care

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TULSA COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY & TCMS FOUNDATION

A : 5315 S Lewis Ave
Tulsa, OK 74105
P : 918.743.6184
F : 918.743.0336
E : tcms@tcmsok.org

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TCMS & TCMS Foundation
mark@tcmsok.org

Joetta Cunningham
Director of Operations
TCMS
joetta@tcmsok.org

Pam Oppelt
Care Coordinator
Project TCMS
pam@tcmsok.org

Beverly Thompson
Special Events & Grants
Coordinator
Project TCMS
beverly@tcmsok.org

*Acceptance of advertising in Tulsa Medicine in no way constitutes professional approval or endorsement of products or services advertised.

2022 MEMBERSHIP DUES REMINDER

The 2022 TCMS & OSMA Dues Statements have been mailed out to our membership. These invoices have a new look this year with several options including:

1. **Check** - Make payable to TCMS and mail to our office
2. **Credit Card** - Complete the information and mail or fax to our office.
3. **Online** - Use the link to pay securely with Credit Card or Scan the QR code with the camera app on your phone or tablet: www.tcmsok.org/renew

Below is an example of what the new invoice looks like and we have included a general dues statement in this month's newsletter as well.



5315 S. Lewis Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74105-6539

P. 918.743.6184
F. 918.743.0336

E. tcms@tcmsok.org
W. www.tcmsok.org

2022 MEMBERSHIP DUES INVOICE

INVOICE	1/1/2022
BILL TO	MESSAGE
Name: _____	Thank you for your membership in TCMS & OSMA. Now more than ever, we need each other, we need you!
Address: _____	
City, State, Zip: _____ Phone: _____	
Email: _____	

The OSMA Board of Trustees has approved a COVID-19 Hardship waiver for 2022 OSMA Dues for those physicians whose practices have been financially impacted by the crisis. If you feel you need to take this hardship, simply mark and pay your selection below.

Please check which membership option you choose below

<input type="checkbox"/> Option 1	TCMS (\$380) & OSMA (\$300) Membership Dues	680.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Option 2	TCMS (\$380) & OSMA (\$150) Membership Dues (COVID)	530.00
<input type="checkbox"/> + AMA Membership Dues (Optional)		420.00

Choose Option 1 or Option 2 and add AMA if desired

Total _____

PAYMENT/CREDIT/DISCOUNTS APPLIED (0.00)

TOTAL DUE BY 12/31/2021

Membership in TCMS and OSMA is required. TCMS is unified with the Oklahoma State Medical Association. Members must join both and dues are collected together. Membership in AMA is optional.

If your full-time working status has changed, please contact our office for lower-cost membership options.

Payment Options

1. **Check** - Make payable to TCMS and mail to our office
2. **Credit Card** - Complete information below and mail or fax to our office
3. **Online** - Use the link to pay with Credit Card online or Scan the QR code with the camera app on your phone or tablet: www.tcmsok.org/renew



SCAN ME

Credit Card Number _____ Amount Paid _____

Name on Card _____ Expiration Date _____ Code _____

Zip Code for card _____ E-mail to send receipt to _____

Lobbying Fees: TCMS 0%, AMA 60%, OSMA 100% are not deductible as a business expense for federal income tax purposes.
\$45 of the OSMA dues provides an annual subscription to the OSMA Journal. Membership in OSMA is required to continue OSMA Group Health Plan Coverage.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND SUPPORT OF YOUR PHYSICIAN ORGANIZATIONS

Just as last year, the OSMA Board of Trustees has approved a COVID-19 Hardship waiver for 2022. OSMA Dues for those physicians whose practices have been financially impacted by the crisis. If you feel you need to take this hardship, simply mark and pay your selection. *If your full-time working status has changed, please contact our office for lower-cost membership options.*

Please contact myself or Joetta Cunningham at 918.743.6184 or email us at mark@tcmsok.org or joetta@tcmsok.org if you have any questions about dues/membership. **We thank you for your membership and support of your physician organizations. Now more than ever, we need each other, we need you!**



Mark McElreath, MPA
Executive Director
Tulsa County Medical Society & TCMS Foundation

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 13, 2021

TCMS Board of Directors Meeting
TCMS Office
6:00pm

OCTOBER 23, 2021

Oklahoma Allergy and Asthma Society (OAAS) Annual Meeting
DoubleTree Warren Place
7:30am - 2:00pm

Registration is required to attend. Contact our office to register.

NOVEMBER 7, 2021

OSMA Board of Trustees Meeting

NOVEMBER 24-26, 2021

TCMS, TCMS Foundation, and Project TCMS Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

NOVEMBER 25, 2021

Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER 1, 2021

TCMS Foundation Board Meeting
TCMS Office
6:00pm

DECEMBER 23-27, 2021

TCMS, TCMS Foundation, and Project TCMS Offices Closed for Christmas Holiday

DECEMBER 25, 2021

Christmas Day

DECEMBER 31-JANUARY 3, 2021

TCMS, TCMS Foundation, and Project TCMS Offices Closed for New Years Holiday

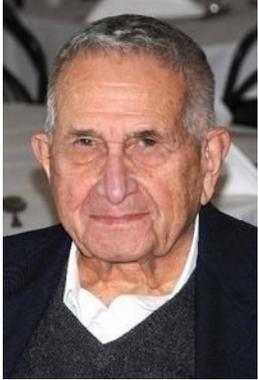
PROPER PRESCRIBING VIRTUAL CME

Upcoming Dates
Thursday, November 18, 6-7pm
Friday, December 3, 12-1pm

To sign up or for more information, contact Sandy Deeba, 405-601-9571 or visit www.okmed.org

*Signed into law in 2018, Oklahoma's Senate Bill 1446 mandates that all physicians complete one hour of CME in pain management per year. To help Oklahoma's physicians better understand how this new law impacts their practice and patients, the Oklahoma State Medical Association is hosting special CMEs in Oklahoma City and Tulsa. This one-hour event offers insight to the legal issues affecting pain management and an overview of the new laws connected with prescribing opioids to patients. All Oklahoma physicians with a DEA license are required to take this one hour course annually.

IN MEMORIAM



Robert Melvin Shepard, Jr., M.D.

TCMS Member since 1953

Robert Melvin Shepard, Jr. was born at midnight, January 1, 1919, in the family home in Kemper County, Mississippi. When his father returned from serving as a medical officer in France during WWI, the family moved back to Talahina, Oklahoma.

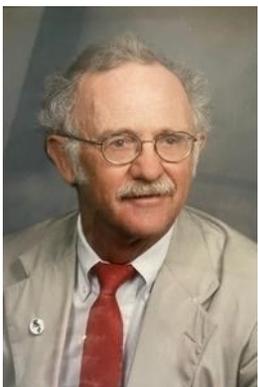
Robert graduated from Tulsa Central High in 1935. He studied premed at The University of Oklahoma and then graduated from Tulane University School of Medicine in New Orleans in 1941. After his internship at Charity Hospital, New Orleans, he served as a WWII flight surgeon and was discharged with rank of Major.

Upon his return home from service, Robert completed his surgical residency at Charity Hospital. He then established a private practice of general and thoracic surgery in Tulsa from 1950 until 1983. He served as president of the Tulsa County Medical Society and was Chief of Staff of St. John Hospital. He was awarded many honors including Doctor of the Year in 1985. In 1997 a \$1,000,000 Shepard-Thompson-Clingan Chair of Surgery was endowed at The University of Oklahoma, Tulsa.

Robert married Eleanor Garnet Handlin of New Orleans on May 11, 1946. They were married for 61 years until Eleanor's death in 2007. They had four children, Robert Shepard and wife, Billie of Helena, Montana, Gayle Henley (deceased), Carolyn Balson and husband, Ken of El Reno, Oklahoma, and Tom Shepard and wife, Pam of Gulf Shores, Alabama. He had nine grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

After retirement, Robert remained active pursuing his many hobbies including international travel, photography, playing the piano, tennis, swimming, genealogy, chess, and bridge. He had a keen intellect and was a voracious reader. In 2003 he moved to Inverness Village in west Tulsa where he lived independently and enjoyed an active life with his many friends including his significant other Millie Clark.

Robert passed away on September 24, 2021 after a brief illness. A Celebration of his Life was held at Inverness Village Founders Room, 3:00 p.m., on Thursday, September 30.



Philip David Pentland Diggdon, M.D.

TCMS Member since 1964

Philip David Pentland Diggdon was born on December 20, 1931 in Mt. Kisco, New York, to immigrant parents, Philip and Helen (Pentland) Diggdon. Dr. Diggdon passed from this life on Thursday, September 16, 2021, at his home surrounded by family at the age of 89.

Philip attended Princeton High School and graduated from Princeton University and Northwestern Medical School. Philip practiced urology in Tulsa, OK, for forty years.

He is survived by his wife, Donna of the home; son, David Pentland Diggdon and daughter-in-law, Jennifer M. Diggdon and their son, Dylan Pentland Diggdon; a daughter, Sarah Myrth Diggdon and a step daughter, Nancy Reynolds.

Private family services were held. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Animal Rescue Foundation.

Our deepest sympathies and condolences to the friends and family

If you would like to make a contribution in the memory of these individuals, please mail your donation to TCMS Foundation at 5315 S. Lewis Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74105 or call our office at 918.743.6184.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



Taniesha L. Buffin, MD
OB-GYN

Utica Park Clinic South, BA
2617 S Elm Place
Broken Arrow, OK 74012
918-394-2229

Medical School

Louisiana State University, New Orleans, LA, 2002-2006

Residency

University of Texas, San Antonio, TX, OB-GYN, 2006-2010



Jerome W. Larson, MD
Radiology

Radiology Consultants of Tulsa
4111 S Darlington Ave Ste 700
Tulsa OK 74135
918-494-1655

Medical School

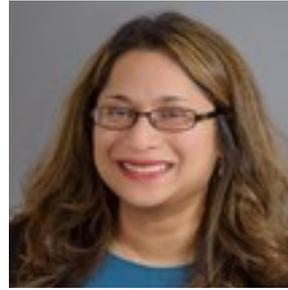
University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City, OK, 2009-2013

Residencies

Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL, Preliminary Surgery, 2013-2014 & Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI, Diagnostic Radiology, 2015-2019

Fellowship

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA, Vascular & Interventional Radiology, 2019-2020



Sharon L. D'Souza, MD, MPH
Radiology

Tulsa Radiology Associates
4111 S Darlington Ave, Ste 700
Tulsa, OK 74135
918-743-8943

Medical School

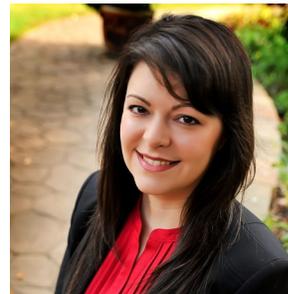
University Oklahoma, OKC, OK, 2000-20004

Residencies

University Oklahoma, Tulsa, OK, General Surgery, 2004-2005 & University Oklahoma, OKC, OK Diagnostic Radiology, 2005-2009

Fellowship

University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, Breast Imaging & Magnetic Resonance Imaging, 2009-2010



Tessa L. Manning, MD
Psychiatry & Addiction Medicine

OU-Tulsa
4502 E 41st St
Tulsa, OK 74135
918-660-3511

Medical School

University of Texas Southwestern, Dallas, TX, 2004-2008

Residency

University of Texas Southwestern, Dallas, TX, Psychiatry, 2008-2012

SUPPORT FOR OU-TULSA SURGICAL RESIDENT SERIOUSLY INJURED CAR WRECK



David P. "Dave" Murray, an OU-Tulsa surgical resident, was seriously injured in a Sept. 7th car wreck in Arizona. His fellow OU residents, friends and family started a spotfund to help move him from Flagstaff, AZ to Tulsa, OK and help with any other needs Dave will have during the course of his recovery. All donations will meet his immediate needs related to this accident. So far, the fund has reached \$32,069.00 and Dave was brought home on September 16, 2021.

To learn more, watch this KOTV 6 story: <https://www.newson6.com/story/613fad22d2f5ae0bedc6c637/family-friends-trying-to-get-tulsa-surgeon-home-after-serious-wreck-in-arizona>

To donate, follow this link: https://www.spotfund.com/story/b8c1cba4-1d2a-4025-bb78-d8b68dbb554d?SFID=8uBtKp&referral_id=70911b8d-64c4-4731-965e-77c1cf6bda77



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2022 MEMBERSHIP DUES INVOICE

INVOICE

1/1/2022

BILL TO

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____ Phone: _____
Email: _____

MESSAGE

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Credit Card Number _____ Amount Paid _____

Name on Card _____ Expiration Date _____ Code _____

Zip Code for card _____ E-mail to send receipt to _____

Lobbying Fees: TCMS 0%, AMA 60%, OSMA 100% are not deductible as a business expense for federal income tax purposes. \$45 of the OSMA dues provides an annual subscription to the OSMA Journal. Membership in OSMA is required to continue OSMA Group Health Plan Coverage.

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