

Is there a D.O. after your doctor's name? If so, then you are the patient of a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine. D.O.s and M.D.s are the only two kinds of physicians qualified to be licensed for the unlimited practice of medicine in all 50 states.

WHAT'S UNIQUE ABOUT OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE?

D.O.s embrace a holistic approach to health care – encouraging healthy lifestyles that integrate body, mind and spirit. They consider all aspects of their patients' lives – such as family, work, recreation, values, diet, exercise, stress and life events – to provide truly patient-centered care. They emphasize prevention, the relationship between the structure and function of the body, and stimulating the body's self-healing properties. In addition, many practice osteopathic manual medicine (OMM), a hands-on diagnostic and therapeutic technique to correct and prevent disease and injury. OMM is a non-invasive therapy that can be used with or sometimes in place of medication or surgery.

ARE THERE OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIANS IN MICHIGAN?

Michigan has one of the strongest presences of osteopathic medicine in the country, with more than 7,000 osteopathic physicians and 23 osteopathic hospitals in: Bay City, Carson City, Clinton Township, Coldwater, Commerce, Detroit, Farmington Hills, Garden City, Grand Blanc, Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Lansing, Madison Heights, Mount Clemens, Muskegon, Traverse City, Trenton, Pontiac, Southfield, Warren and Wyandotte. In addition, the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, which has educated nearly 4,000 D.O.s since its inception in 1969, is consistently ranked among the top ten for primary care education among all medical schools, either M.D. or D.O., in the nation.

