

OUR VOICES: BETTER TOGETHER, STRONGER, EFFECTIVE!

On behalf of the Spokane County Medical Society (SCMS) leadership, I wish our members, their families, and patients a very Happy New Year.

Also, a huge thank you to our past president, Dr. Erin Medina and to our Board for their sustained guidance as we seek to leave no stone unturned in accomplishing the Mission of SCMS.

It is an honor and a privilege to serve as the incoming President of The Spokane County Medical Society.

I have been a member of SCMS since my family and I moved to Spokane in 2009. I am a multi-organ transplant surgeon-liver, kidney, and pancreas transplantation.

SCMS has an illustrious history of serving Spokane since 1885 and no doubt seen and weathered many changes over these many years. However, in the past decade, there has been a tremendous evolution in the delivery of healthcare at local, regional, and national levels.

Even the physician-patient relationship, which we consider sacred, is being threatened by many of these disruptive changes and legislative proposals.

Ultimately, and consistent with the Mission of SCMS, we want our members (physicians and physician assistants) to have an active voice and representation in these critical issues to insure better outcomes for patients and support for physician-led team-based care.

In choosing the theme of “BETTER TOGETHER”, I am reminded of an African Proverb- “If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together”.

As members of SCMS, we aim to leverage the benefit of organized medicine, in alignment with other Medical Societies-WSMA, AMA, to have a coherent voice in shaping current and future local, regional, or national policies that impact our patients and practices.

We invite our members to get familiar with the many benefits of membership- advocacy, education, community engagement, fostering collegiality, member specific resources, and focus on the next generation of physicians and physician assistants.

As you know, caring for our patients, healing, creating and delivering “hope” even when all seems lost, is one of the greatest professional joys we all share. That “joy” needs to be preserved. Therefore, we must aggressively address factors at every level that contribute to “burnout” while doing all we can to provide resources for improving the wellness of members.

Regardless of the professional challenges we may face, we can turn them into real opportunities for improved outcomes for patients and our practices by coming together, collegially, collaboratively, inviting, and welcoming feedback, as members of SCMS.

Your feedback helps us refine our priorities. So, we want your questions and suggestions.

Most importantly, we need your support through membership, to help SCMS deliver on its Mission. Please [join or renew your membership](#) today.



Okechukwu “OK” Ojogho, MD, MMM, FACS
2024 SCMS President

