

DOs and MDs Share Thunderbird's Care-First Philosophy

Thunderbird Internal Medicine is proud to have a wonderful mix of physicians to serve our patients. Of our more than 20 physicians, some are Medical Doctors (MDs) while others are Doctors of Osteopathic Medicine (DOs).

If you've ever wondered what the differences are, hopefully this can help.

Both DOs and MDs :

- Are trained and licensed to care for patients and prescribe medication.
- Utilize scientifically-accepted methods of diagnosis and treatment.
- Have identical premedical pathways and complete four years of medical school and a residency program.
- Are licensed to practice all phases of medicine.

The Osteopathic Approach

Osteopathic physicians aim to have the whole body working together instead of targeting an illness or physical complaint as a lone deficiency. Within their unique approach to patient care, osteopathic physicians are trained to:

- Teach patients how to prevent illness and injury by maintaining a healthy lifestyle.
- Look at the whole person to reach a diagnosis without focusing just on symptoms.
- Help the body to heal itself.

- Believe that all parts of the body work together and influence one another.

DOs are also specially trained in the nervous system and the musculoskeletal system (muscles and bones).

All About Choice

Informed patients are better able to choose a physician based on the philosophical differences practiced by the two schools of medicine. However, the most important characteristic of any doctor is the care given to patients. All Thunderbird IM physicians share our patient-centered care philosophy...no matter which letters follow their names!

May is Better Hearing and Speech Month!

While finding out that you have hearing loss may not seem like something to celebrate, treating your hearing loss early can give you many reasons to be happy. Studies show that treating your hearing loss early can help in two ways. First, the earlier you start with hearing aids, the better you'll do with them and the more stable your hearing loss will likely be. Second, we now know that there are definite ties between untreated hearing loss and dementia, and no one wants to risk dementia!

Even better – finding out if you have hearing loss won't cost you much! Most insurance companies will pay for your hearing test and there is no charge to simply come in and discuss hearing aid options if they are recommended. If you would like your hearing checked, ask your doctor or simply schedule an appointment with Thunderbird Internal Medicine's audiologist Dr. Deborah Blaylock by calling 602.938.6960.



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