



**Policy Order Number:** D003 Graduate Medical Education (GME)

**Standards:** COCA 10.3

**Policy Title:** Commitment to the Osteopathic Education Continuum and GME Entry

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to outline the processes and institutional commitment to assist Graduate Medical Education (GME) programs in achieving and maintaining Osteopathic Recognition and in meeting the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) requirements for Osteopathic Recognition.

[Osteopathic Recognition](#) is a designation conferred by the ACGME's Osteopathic Recognition Committee upon ACGME-accredited programs that demonstrate, through a formal application process, the commitment to teaching and assessing Osteopathic Principles and Practice (OPP) at the graduate medical education level.

NCH COM supports the continuum of osteopathic medical education. In addition to undergraduate medical education, OCOM supports Graduate and Continuing Medical Education. OCOM, in partnership with Dr. Kiran C. Patel (philanthropist) has created the Dr. Kiran C. Patel Institute on Graduate Medical Education (GME Institute). The GME Institute is a separate, 501(c)3 non-profit institution housed at OCOM and receives financial support from Dr. Patel as well as significant direct and indirect financial support from OCOM. The GME Institute's Executive Director has a dotted line reporting structure to the Dean of OCOM as well as to the GME Institute's Board, which has a seat reserved for the Dean of OCOM. OCOM will provide ongoing financial support for the GME Institute. Furthermore, the GME Institute, as part of its commitment to support OCOM, will provide continuing medical education as part of supporting the continuum osteopathic medical education in its partnership with OCOM.

Additionally, OCOM has a deep understanding of the importance of the obligations to ensure entry of students into graduate medical education (GME) upon graduation. In addition to the above endeavors to support the development and sustainability of graduate medical education opportunities, OCOM has developed the following GME placement plan to support students entry into GME:

## **GME Education and Residency Preparedness**

### **OMSI Year**

#### One-on-One Introduction/GME Planning Meetings (August – May)

Executive Director of GME meets with all first-year medical students in person within the first six months of matriculation to discuss the road to residency, discuss which Careers in Medicine (CiM) modules will be required, committee involvement, volunteer experience and Graduate Medical Education (GME) programs/initiatives that will be available over the four years of

medical school. Executive Director of GME uses a GME Planning Form (See Attachment D) for each meeting that is documented in the data management system (Navigate 360). Discussions will cover topics that were suggested in the Careers in Medicine Advising Checklist as a reference. (See Attachment E)

Careers in Medicine Modules:

Medical Specialty Preference Inventory (MSPI)  
Physician Values in Practice Scale (PVIPS)  
Physician Skills Inventory (PSI)  
Personality Type (MBTI® and KTS®)

The Executive Director of GME schedules Meet & Greets with physicians who work in residency programs from several specialties from January – June for the MSI students to talk to and ask questions about why the specialist chose their field and the journey to becoming an Attending.

**OMSII Year**

One-on-One GME Planning Meetings (August – June)

The Executive Director of GME will meet (virtual or in-person) with MSII students throughout the course of the academic year to discuss the top 3 non-binding specialties they are most interested in. The assigned Careers in Medicine modules will be reviewed and assigned to MSII students.

Careers in Medicine Modules:

Licensing Exams  
Clinical & Research Opportunities  
Educational Experience  
Compare Specialties  
Settings and Environments  
Military Medicine  
*Specialty Indecision Scale (SIS)*

Students are required to review and complete CiM assignments. In the MSII year, students must review the [Specialty Spotlights](#) for their top three non-binding specialties and 5 other specialties suggested by the Executive Director of GME based on the GME planning meetings.

COMLEX I

Students will be advised to take COMLEX Level 1 practice exam at the beginning of the MSII year. [Practice Exam - COMLEX I](#)

The Executive Director of GME will have Meet & Greets with a MD/DO from several specialties throughout the academic year for the MSII students to talk to and ask questions about why the specialist chose their field and the journey to becoming an Attending. They will be asked to give a 10 – 15 minute presentation about their field and have a Question-and-Answer session with the MSII students.

**OMSIII:**One-on-One GME Planning Meetings (August – January)

The Executive Director of GME will meet (virtual or in-person) with MSII students in the first six months to discuss their intended residency program. Choosing the elective rotations for the MSIV year will be discussed with each student. Each student must list the top 3 specialties they are most interested in. Careers in Medicine modules will be assigned.

Careers in Medicine Modules:

Finding Your Fit

Physician Panel: Finding Your Specialty Fit (video)

Making your Specialty Decision

Evaluating your Specialty Choice After an Unpleasant Clinical Rotation

Evaluating your Specialty Choice After an Unpleasant Personal Encounter

Lifestyle and your Specialty Decision

Research Programs

COMLEX II

Students will be advised to take COMLEX Level 2 CE practice exam at the beginning of the MSIII year. [Practice Exam - COMLEX II CE](#)

**OMSIV:**Residency Application Meetings (August)

The Executive Director of GME will meet with the OMSIV class as a group (In-Person option and virtual option) to discuss the upcoming interview season. Overview of ERAS, NRMP timelines, Interview Protocol and scheduling of mock interviews will be scheduled. Careers in Medicine modules will be assigned in June to be completed by August. Medical students can schedule one-on-one meetings with the Executive Director of GME as needed throughout the academic year. During SOAP week, all GME personnel will be available to assist any students who did not match in the Main NRMP Match with applying to available programs.

Careers in Medicine Modules:

Application Strategy

Application List

Application Services

Application Costs

Your Application

Interview Prep

Schedule Interviews

After An Interview

Virtual Interviews

Match Process

Rank Programs

Unmatched Applicants

### COMLEX III

Students will be advised to take COMLEX Level 3 practice exam at the mid-year of their MSIV year. [Practice Exam - COMLEX III](#)

### **PERSONNEL**

Executive Director of Graduate Medical Education – Shawnette Alford, C-TAGME  
(See Attachment A for full job description)

### **BUDGETARY RESOURCES**

NCH COM will provide \$250,000 to the Dr. Kiran C. Patel Institute for Graduate Medical Education (KPIGME) to assist with supporting the continuum of osteopathic education in GME in 2027. Each year thereafter, NCH COM will provide \$500,000 per academic year to assist with GME development and continuum of osteopathic education in GME.

### **GME DEVELOPMENT**

In 2025, KPIGME partnered with NCH COM to assist the medical school and Naples Community Hospital with the expansion of their residency programs to become a statutory teaching hospital. KPIGME and NCH COM worked with NCH to create a categorical program with the Preventive Medicine Residency program at the Department of Health (DOH) in West Palm Beach. In addition, the team is developing a psychiatry residency program with the partnership with David Lawrence Behavioral Center.

<b>Academic Year Timeline</b>	<b>Action</b>
Year 1	<b>Ongoing Faculty Development (a minimum over every two years):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ERAS</li><li>• Resident/GME timeline</li><li>• Licensing/certification/COMLEX-USA</li><li>• Specialty choices</li><li>• Match information</li><li>• Advising students</li><li>• Career in Medicine Training</li></ul>
	Students submit initial non-binding top three choices of residency specialty
	Student and faculty access to Careers in Medicine (CIM) from the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)
	Meet with a GME advisor during the first year for a discussion that includes the OCOM process for career and academic advising

	<p><b>Learning Session(s):</b> <i>(Careers in Medicine)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ERAS</li> <li>• Academic and residency timeline</li> <li>• Specialty choices</li> <li>• Resident/GME timeline</li> <li>• Licensing/certification/COMLEX-USA</li> <li>• Specialty choices</li> <li>• Match &amp; GME Placement information</li> <li>• Career Advising from Faculty Opportunities</li> <li>• Clinical Site placement education and implementation for the core rotation sites for years three and four</li> </ul> <p><b>GME Grand Rounds</b> <i>(Presentations by Program Directors)</i></p> <p>Anesthesiology  Dermatology  Emergency Medicine  Family Medicine  General Surgery  Internal Medicine  Military Medicine  Neurology  Obstetrics &amp; Gynecology  Orthopedic Surgery  Pediatrics  Preventive Medicine  Psychiatry  Radiology  Urology</p>
Year 2	<p><b>Learning Session(s):</b> <i>(Careers in Medicine)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Academic and Residency Timeline</li> <li>• COMLEX-USA Prep and Timeline</li> <li>• Specialty Choices</li> <li>• Match information</li> <li>• ERAS</li> <li>• LOR's</li> <li>• Board Preparation</li> <li>• AMA Frieda</li> <li>• VSLO</li> </ul> <p>Students identify three top non-binding choices of residency specialty.</p> <p>GME Grand Rounds (Presentations by Program Directors)</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clinical Site placement education and implementation for the core rotation sites for years three and four</li> </ul>
Year 3	<p><b>Completion of the Residency Planning Course (Rotation):</b>  Audition rotations  Self-Creation of an Individualized GME Placement Plan  Students complete assignments in Careers in Medicine (CIM) regarding ERAS, LoRs, VSLO, MSPEs, residency/specialty selection  OSCEs/Mock residency interviews for students  Students submit personal statements for evaluation and edit (one for each specialty choice)</p>
	Students list non-binding top three choices of residency specialty
	Meet with a GME advisor for discussion of their individualized GME Placement Plan
	GME Grand Rounds (Presentations by Program Directors)
Year 4	Students complete myERAS application with designated programs. Students pay and submit board scores to myERAS and upload personal statements.
	Students participate in interviews at residency programs
	Students submit rank order list with primary and alternative choices after meeting with advisor
	NRMP match support system/command center for students who need to participate in SOAP
	Match day ceremonies

**DEAN APPROVED:** January 31, 2026  
Wolfgang Gilliar, DO, FAAPMR  
Dean & Chief Academic Officer  
**Effective Date:** January 31, 2026  
**Revised Date:**