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GOMA News & Updates

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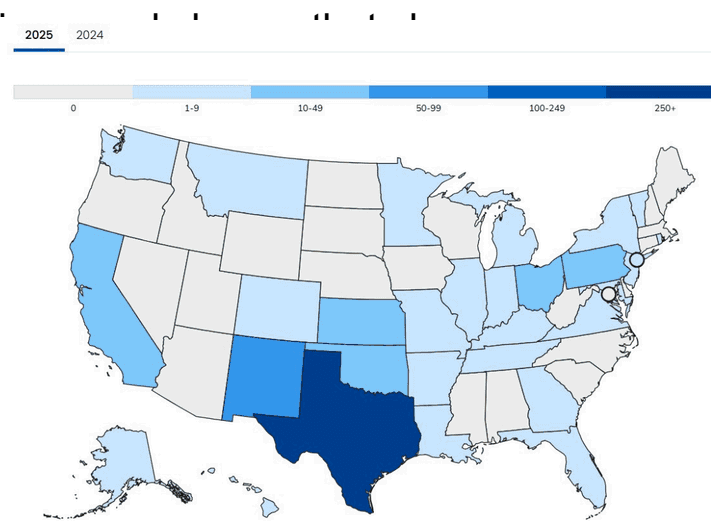


Dr. Marla Golden

Marla Golden, DO Is Leaving PCOM South Georgia for New D.O. School in Kansas

Marla Golden, DO will be leaving PCOM South Georgia after graduation day, May 15.

In regards to her next career move, she said, “I am taking a position at Benedictine College in Atchison, KS, as the Founding Dean of their proposed School of Osteopathic Medicine. It’s a great opportunity, a big leap of faith, but I will miss all my friends in Georgia. It has really been my pleasure to work with (executive director) Betsy Hilt and the GOMA team. I remain a fan! I hope the membership efforts will continue and build in GA for DO's and GOMA!”



DR. COLLIPP

Daniel Collip, DO Helps GOMA Members Prepare for Measles Outbreak

Daniel Collip, DO graduated from Touro University College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2001, and completed his residency in Pediatrics from Doctors Hospital, Columbus, Ohio in 2004. Dr. Collip does general pediatrics in Jesup, Georgia. He has been a supporter of GOMA and was helpful in 2021 when this newsletter interviewed two differing opinions about Covid vaccinations for pediatric patients. With another viral illness spreading around the country (see map above), we knew Dr. Collip (**DC**) would be helpful in answering some questions about Measles.

What are the symptoms & signs of Measles infection?

DC: Measles begins to present between 7-14 days after exposure. It initially resembles the common cold with cough, runny nose and conjunctivitis. After 3-4 days the characteristic rash develops. Koplik spots are white or gray spots in the mouth which may also present at this time. Fevers up to 105 degrees may also be present.

How is Measles diagnosed?

DC: Diagnosis may be made on clinical grounds if you have the characteristic rash which begins on the head and spreads down combined with a report of a community outbreak in your area. Usually diagnosis is made with PCR or serology. It is recommended

that infected individuals stay at home unless they are extremely ill. If infected individuals go to a doctor's office or the ER they infect everyone there.

Are there any antivirals that are effective to treat Measles?

DC: Treatment is supportive care only. There are no antivirals for measles. The best approach is prevention by vaccination.

Please give the typical vaccine schedule for Measles? During outbreaks is there an accelerated schedule?

The MMR vaccine is a two shot series. The first dose is given at age 12-15 months, the second dose is given between 4-6 years of age. If you are planning to travel to a foreign country you can give an MMR to an infants aged 6 months or older. However, you will still have to give the MMR doses at the recommended schedule after. During outbreaks your local health department may advise to vaccinate infants 6 months or older if you live in an affected area. They may advise to give a second vaccination early to children who have only had their first dose, such as a two year old. They may recommend that adults who have questionable vaccine status get immunized.

When did the two-shot series become standard? Is it advisable those that got only one shot, prior to that change, to get a booster even if they are now an adult?

DC: Health care workers generally are advised to review their vaccination status. If you were born before 1957 you are generally considered immune. In 1963 they came out with the first version of the vaccine. In 1968 they came out with the present, more effective live version of the vaccine. In 1989 they started recommending two doses.

If you received a single dose you should consider getting a second dose, especially if you are located in an area affected by an outbreak. If you received one of the early, less effective vaccines made prior to 1968, you may consider getting two doses. There are other special situations in which you may wish to get revaccinated, for example, if you are living with someone who is immune compromised.

Thank you Dr. Collip!

The [CDC's toolkit](#) can help your community prepare for measles outbreaks by helping you to understand how to report measles immediately (within 24 hours) to the CDC (measlesreport@cdc.gov); establish measles case identification and reporting within your community; and enhance education, outreach, and communication to your community, including healthcare providers and under-vaccinated populations before and during an outbreak.



Larry Anderson, DO Helps the Ukrainian People

GOMA Past President Larry Anderson, DO ventured away from his practice to bring supplies and medical care to the Ukrainian local law officers and communities near the eastern border in early April 2025. Dr. Anderson is a great osteopathic physician illustrated by compassion over the past 47 years!

We caught up with Dr. Anderson and interviewed him by phone to learn more about his commitment to the Ukrainian people.

Larry Anderson, DO is currently employed by Northside Hospital doing family practice in Marble Hill, Georgia (since December 2024)

which is 15 miles northwest of Dawsonville. He has been active in multiple roles in the osteopathic community including being past President of GOMA and the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians.

Over the past two and half years, his Rotary Club has supported the Ukrainian immigrants to north Georgia with supplying apartments and cars for them to become productive members of society. Mr. Alex Gerasimova, a lay preacher and an engineer of fire suppression equipment, began discussing with the group about traveling to Ukraine to help the war torn country. Dr. Anderson made his first trip in November 2023 to set up chaplain services which included counseling and moral support for citizens who refuse to leave their homes as well as local law officers who serve as first responders and secondary military. In October 2024, the program expanded to oblasts closer to the fighting. The Oblasts of Ukraine are regions that serve as primary administrative units in Ukraine. There are 24 oblasts in Ukraine. Dr. Anderson and the others were able to deliver as close as 2 miles to the border - blankets, food, water to locals as well as money for kids' shoes.

The last trip in April 2025 was exciting not only because of the logistics working even better, but also because Dr. Anderson's charitable group's reputation has become better known. After they flew into Warsaw, Poland, Dr. Anderson & others traveled in a passenger van that filled up with supplies from warehouses in Kiev, Ukraine. The warehouses have been supplied through charities such as Samaritan's Purse and Liberty University. At 79 years old, Dr. Larry Anderson was somewhat shocked and humored when one of the elected officials said, "Dr. Anderson, you are well known in Ukraine."

Dr. Anderson states that another trip is being planned but if someone wants to help financially, they can donate to Cumming New Life Church in Cumming, Georgia, a Christian congregation serving the Cumming community and encouraging others through a life-changing Christian journey. New Life Church seeks to serve God by working for justice and peace, respect and learn from all the great

faith traditions and desire to be known by the love we have for one another. Make sure to earmark your donation for Ukraine.

<https://www.cityonahillchurch.us/>



Andrew Malinchak, DO Traveled to Poland to help Ukrainians with Care & OMT

Andrew Malinchak, DO went to Warsaw, Poland for a week between January and February 2023. “I remember talking with a couple of colleagues a long time ago about their mission trip, and I thought it would be rewarding and educational to do a trip like that. The opportunity presented itself to travel there, meet and treat people from the Russian-Ukrainian war and (hopefully) find out about my ethnic heritage (which I did),” he said.

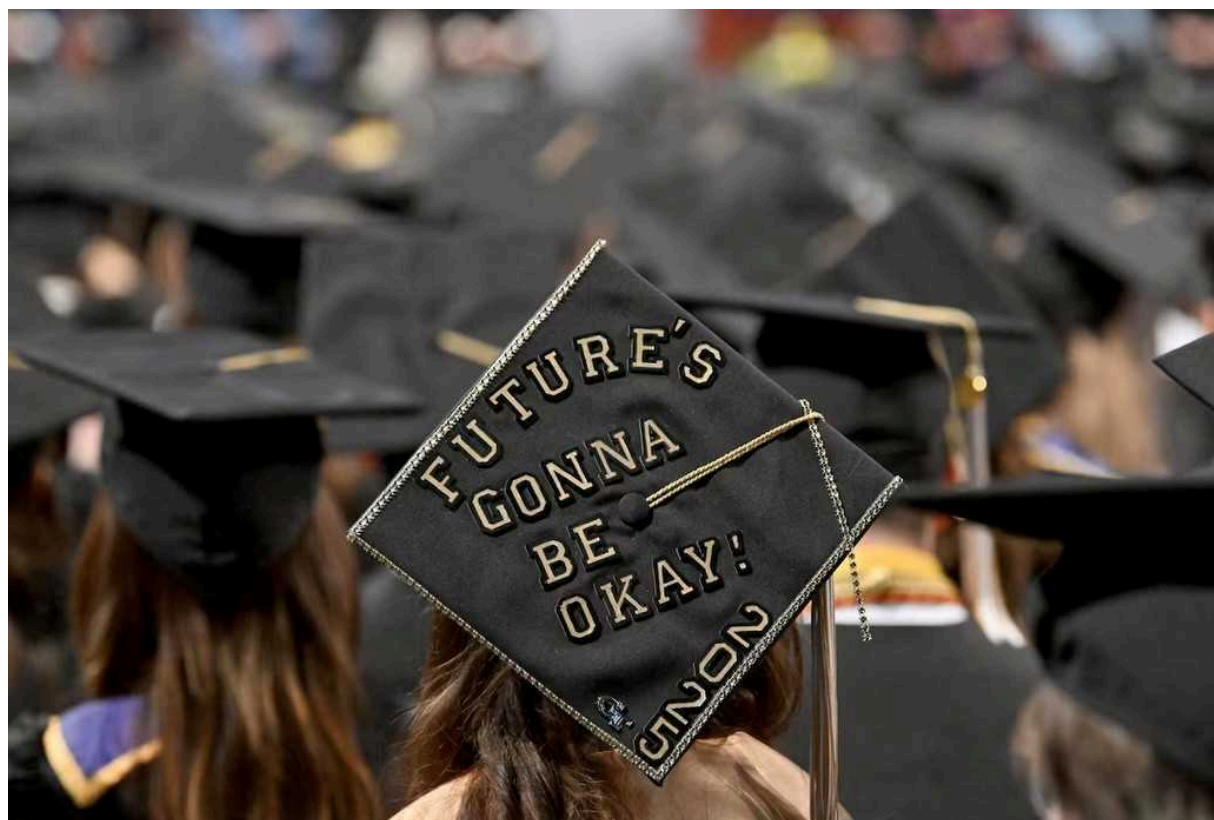
In regard to his 2023 Poland trip, Dr. Malinchak recalls two allopathic physicians in the group, and he didn’t think that there are osteopathic physicians in Warsaw. He was treated as an equal at work.

“There were no men of age’s say 18-40 or so, as they were back in the Ukraine in the war efforts. I saw only women and a few children. I was seeing primary care type cases, a few URI's, and hypertension

mostly. As I have a knack for OMT, I was seeing a lot of back aches and treating with OMT. I had an interesting case of a headache in a middle-aged woman that was caused by a bomb that landed near her apartment complex before she fled. I reasoned that the concussive shock waves from the bomb caused her headache and that her cranial bones had overridden each other. I did cranial OMT on her and resolved her headache. She was quite surprised and pleased by the treatment. All of the OMT cases expected me to just give them Tylenol and were quite happy that I was able to ‘fix’ them with no medications!”

In regards to advise to others considering traveling outside of the country to help communities in need, Dr. Malinchak said, “Advice I would give would be if you want to experience medicine in a different setting and being able to help people who can be grateful for even the smallest things, then take a medical mission trip! It's worthwhile.”

Dr. Malinchak graduated from PCOM in Philadelphia in 1991. He did his osteopathic residency first at Pinellas Community Hospital in Pinellas Park, FL and finished his family practice residency at University General Hospital in Seminole, FL (first hospital closed during last year of residency). In regards to current career, Dr. Malinchak said, “I am between practices currently.” He is married to his wife, Tracy. He loves to golf, travel and enjoy good restaurants.



Georgia's Osteopathic Schools Graduate the Next Generation of DOs in May

PCOM South Georgia's Commencement Ceremony for the Class of 2025 will be held on Thursday, May 15, 2025, in the John Hunt Auditorium at the University of Georgia Tifton Campus Conference Center. 1- 4 PM John Hunt Auditorium is located at 15 R D C Rd, Tifton, GA 31794.

PCOM Georgia's Commencement Ceremony for the Class of 2025 will be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at the Gas South Convention Center (Exhibit Halls C & D) in Duluth. 1 – 4 PM. Gas South Convention Center is located at 6400 Sugarloaf Pkwy, Duluth, GA 30097.

PCOM Georgia announced that Carol H. Burrell, retired CEO of Northeast Georgia Health System (NGHS), will deliver the keynote address at PCOM Georgia's 2025 Commencement Ceremony. With over 40 years of experience in healthcare leadership, Burrell led NGHS South Georgia in growing their Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine Class of future healthcare professionals! That means they can now impact healthcare in South Georgia even more. “Moultrie and

the South Georgia community at large have warmly welcomed PCOM South Georgia will also recognize William Delp, DO, as professor emeritus for his contributions during active teaching service with the College address the physician shortages that continue to affect the communities we serve,” said Marla D. Golden, DO '88, MS, FACEP, dean of the Osteopathic Medicine Program at PCOM South Georgia. You can watch both of these events on the [school's YouTube Channel](https://tinyurl.com/4fk4re6p).
[Read more here: https://tinyurl.com/4fk4re6p](https://tinyurl.com/4fk4re6p)



Georgia Legislature Recognizes the Great Work of PCOM Georgia & PCOM South GA

State Rep. Chas Cannon (left) recently presented a resolution from the House of Representatives commending PCOM Georgia and PCOM South Georgia on our efforts to educate and train caring physicians, health practitioners, and behavioral scientists, many of whom practice in Georgia. Here, Rep. Cannon meets with Marla D. Golden, DO '88, dean of the osteopathic medicine program at PCOM South Georgia, and Michael Parkerson, PCOM's chief government and external relations officer.

Research Day at PCOM South Georgia

More than 80 research projects were on display during the PCOM South Georgia annual Research Day on Wednesday, May 7. PCOM student physicians, residents from Georgia South and Archbold, and physicians from area healthcare systems shared their most recent scholarly work during poster sessions and brief podium talks.

A variety of topics were discussed, including:

- “Mapping genetic risk factors for cardiac arrhythmias: A multi-population GWAS using All of Us research data” presented by Daniel Chanelo (DO '28), PCOM South Georgia student physician.
- “Optimizing treatment for infantile hemangiomas: A case report on the use of timolol and timing of oral propranolol initiation” presented by Makayla Farr (DO '26), PCOM South Georgia student physician in collaboration with Georgia South Family Medicine Residency.
- “Postpartum hemorrhage in the absence of traditional risk factors: A clinical perspective” presented by Lisandra Chinae Ramos (DO '26), PCOM South Georgia student in collaboration with Georgia South Family Medicine Residency.
- “Pyogenic granuloma at the ileocecal junction: Unusual culprit of chronic anemia and intussusception” presented by Xavia Taylor,

DO '23, PCOM South Georgia alumna and PGY-2 Internal
Medicine Resident with Archbold Medical Center.

Read about the keynote speaker, Alexander Ophir, PhD, Professor
of Psychology at Cornell University, [here](#).



Student Doctor Elisha Crean Does Not Let Age Stop Her from Becoming an Osteopath

With unwavering determination and poise, at age 47 Elisha Crean (DO '27) doesn't just chase her dreams — she conquers them. Supported by the ceaseless motivation from loved ones and colleagues, she braves every challenging hurdle with an indomitable spirit. [Read about her dedication to becoming an osteopathic physician](#). Remember, dreams don't have an expiration date!



Fireflies

Julia L. McDonald, DO, MPH

Today we had four babies before 9a,
Then two hospice discharges,
an admission at 10:30
and a stat transfer from Boston.
We were late rounding and
I never taught bedside POCOS because
my sister called in the middle of the morning
(my niece just had a seizure)
while an overhead Code 99
sent the team jogging to do epi and shocks.
I failed to give the senior feedback
and two interns cried by 5
and yet the fireflies this year are so numerous and astonishing that
in the midst of all this life and death,
we paused to exclaim together
at last night's glitter, like stars
had fallen to earth.

Dr. Julia McDonald's poem appeared in April 8, 2025 issue of JAMA. She is a 2011 graduate of University of New England COM. Dr. McDonald is full-spectrum faculty and hospitalist at the Maine-Dartmouth Family Medicine Residency, with a focus on obstetrics, sexual and reproductive healthcare, and international medicine. She also serves as Medical Director at a small, independent health center in northern Maine. Part of every year, she spends working with international humanitarian aid organizations as a trainer and implementer, supporting teams in the field, mostly in central and eastern Africa. [She has just published a book of poems about uteruses available here.](#)