

FRACTURE *lines*

The Newsletter of the Orthopaedic Trauma Association

February 2009

OTA Flash



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT *J. Tracy Watson, MD*

I hope you have all had a tolerable winter and are looking forward to spring and all that comes with it....namely... more trauma cases!!! The past few months have been very busy for the OTA board and the various committees. We finally have incorporated our 501(c)(3) foundation, the Center for Orthopaedic Trauma Advancement (COTA). I proposed this at our Annual Meeting in Denver in an effort to provide a vehicle with which commercial entities and other donors could continue to support the mission statement of the OTA. This is envisioned as a foundation that would help fund our trauma fellowships as well as other research and educational endeavors.

In light of new DOJ restrictions, the OTA board felt that this would be an excellent way to help all potential commercial and non-commercial benefactors continue to support trauma research and educational ventures. The officers and board for this independent foundation have been selected and they have agreed to serve as the founding board members. I would like to congratulate **Brendan Patterson, MD**, as the new President, **Michael Chapman, MD**, Chairman of the Board, **Bruce Browner, MD**, Secretary, **Larry Bone, MD**, Treasurer, and **Mark Richardson, MD**, Member-at-Large. These are the initial officers required to become incorporated and begin functioning as an independent entity. I am sure you will all hear more in the future as this foundation begins its functions and requires additional members who are willing to serve to carry out its goals.

Continued on page 5.



FROM THE EDITOR *Lisa K. Cannada, MD*

Welcome to the February 2009 OTA Flash Edition! Look for details on **Specialty Day 2009** inside this newsletter. For those of you who have not registered, you may register on site Friday, 2/27. We all hope to see you there. Don't forget, it is NOT too late to lend a helping hand to build a playground at the AAOS on Tuesday 2/24. This issue also provides: **committee updates** and announcements; information on all **upcoming trauma courses** and links for registration; and, an important update on the **Institute of Medicine (IOM)**'s proposal for an 80-hour workweek. Look for a full version of the newsletter forthcoming in April 2009 with a **newsletter deadline of April 6, 2009**. What an eventful year Dr. Watson had during his presidency with all of the issues that came to a head, particularly regarding Industry funding issues. We look forward to seeing everyone in Las Vegas. If there is anything you want covered in the newsletter, please feel free to contact me at lcannada@slu.edu.

SPECIALTY DAY

Don't miss Specialty Day at the AAOS meeting! It will be held **Saturday, February 28, 2009**, in the Venetian ballroom I. The day is an exciting packed day starting with ***Fracture Management Controversies***, a series of case presentations and debates with audience response based discussion. This should lead to a quality debate and strong opinions. This is followed by the ***OTA Annual Meeting highlight papers*** and the latter half of Business Meeting (members only) during lunch. The ***Presidential guest speaker is Richard Hunt*** from the CDC speaking about the development of nationwide trauma systems. The remaining two sessions in the afternoon are ***New Concepts on Wound Management*** discussing negative pressure with one of the speakers being Lewis Argenta, originator of the VAC and co-developer of the concept. The afternoon ends with ***New Concepts in Image Guidance and Computer Assisted Surgery***. It is too late to pre-register, however onsite registration is available on Friday.

OTA REPRESENTATION ON AAOS NOMINATIONS

The OTA is well represented on the AAOS Nominations List. Congratulations to the OTA members (in bold below)

The 2009 AAOS Nominating Committee has determined to recommend the following individuals to serve in the specified AAOS leadership positions:

Second Vice President: Daniel J. Berry, MD

Member-at-Large (no age designation):

Paul Tornetta III, MD

Member-at-Large (under age 45):

Michael L. Parks, MD

National Membership Committee Representative:

Lisa K. Cannada, MD

Additionally, the committee has recommended the following nominees for the **American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery**:

J. Lawrence Marsh, MD

Sohail K. Mirza, MD, MPH

Elizabeth A. Szalay, MD

David C. Teague, MD

AAOS Members will have the opportunity to vote on these recommendations at the business meeting on Thursday, February 26, Venetian Hotel Ballroom at 9:00 AM.

AAOS TRAUMA ICL's

Use the schedule listed on the OTA website to find the 12 co-branded AAOS/OTA ICL's, symposium and skills course. Don't miss a chance to learn from the experts! Sign up at AAOS Registration in Las Vegas.



LEND A HELPING HAND: BUILD A PLAYGROUND AT THE AAOS!

Join hundreds of orthopaedic surgeons, nurses, industry partners, state and specialty society representatives, and Las Vegas community members on **Tuesday, Feb. 24** -the day before the Annual Meeting begins-to build a safe, accessible playground for children with and without disabilities.

The day begins at 7 a.m. and ends at approximately 3:30 p.m. It takes just that one day to build a 2,500+ square foot playground. You will help leave a legacy to Las Vegas that will be remembered long after the Annual Meeting concludes.

If you need transportation, buses will run between the Sand's Expo Center and the playground site from 6:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. Music, breakfast and lunch will be provided at the location. No experience is necessary to help; seasoned project managers will be on-site to oversee the build. Whether you spend just an hour or two or the entire day, you will long remember the great time and the joyful faces of the neighborhood children.

Add your name to the volunteer roster by calling Pat Julitz (847) 384-4036 or e-mailing julitz@aaos.org.

Annual Meeting attendees will receive a ribbon for your meeting badge at the playground build site. All volunteers will receive detailed information prior to the event. We look forward to seeing you there!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members Business Meeting

7:30 am – Saturday, February 28,

Venetian Hotel, Ballroom I–

Research Awards and New Members Introduced



Members Business Meeting

continues during Lunch at Specialty Day – 12:15 pm

Attendees will nominate from Active or Research Members to serve on the Nominating committee

AND

Vote on Bylaws changes. October Business Meeting Minutes and Bylaws changes are posted on the OTA website.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Lawrence Webb, MD, Chair

Refer to the OTA website to see bylaws changes to be voted on Specialty Day at the Business Meeting:

Members Business Meeting

Saturday, February 28

7:30 – 8:00 am and 12:15 – 1:20 pm.

Venetian Hotel, Ballroom I

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Joseph Borrelli, Jr., MD

DEADLINES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OTA Research Grant Pre-Proposal Deadline:

Friday, April 1st

The application is on the web and the new '09 directed clinical topics are:

Directed Topic Clinical Study:

(\$50,000/year, 3 year funding cycle)

- Proximal Humerus Fractures
- Economic Outcomes in Trauma Care
- Clinical Trial Re-evaluation of non-operative problems
- Effect of non-operative post surgical therapy in trauma

BASIC SCIENCE COMMITTEE

Theodore Miclau, MD, Chair

The Basic Science Focus Forum was well attended at last year's Annual Meeting. There were a total of 237 attendees, which represented over twice the number of attendees from the Forum's beginning in 2003. The meeting was structured similarly to that of the previous year's program, addressing state-of-the-art basic research in clinically relevant topics through six symposia (Current concepts in Open Fracture Wound Management, Fracture Healing, "Nuts and Bolts" of Mechanical Testing, Cartilage Injury and Repair, Tissue Engineering, and Publishing a paper—"How Do I Do It?") Five of the six symposia were followed by scientific paper sessions, with each scientific session preceded by an overview from an expert in the field who summarized the overall content of the research work. The program also included a presentation entitled "ORS 2008 Annual Meeting Update: What Is New in Cartilage Repair." A summary of the Basic Science papers will be presented at the OTA Specialty Day in Las Vegas.

OTA continues to partner with the Orthopaedic Research Society to promote and develop translational research opportunities in orthopaedic trauma-related research. At this year's Annual ORS Meeting in Las Vegas, for the first time, there will be a Trauma poster session. This is the product of the ORS's formation of a separate trauma topic section, which includes submissions on polytrauma, systemic response to injury, and clinical trauma research. Emil Schemitsch, a member of the OTA Basic Science Committee, is the trauma topic chair for the ORS.

Also, for the second consecutive year, there will be a joint ORS/OTA symposium entitled "BMPs: Current Evidence and Future Solutions". This symposium reviews the current clinical evidence on the use of BMPs to treat fresh open tibia fractures and non-unions, as well as addresses what work still remains to assess the effectiveness of these proteins. The speakers will be *Thomas Einhorn, Emil Schemitsch, Marc Swiontkowski, Alan Jones, and Mohit Bhandari*, and will be moderated by *Emil Schemitsch and Theodore Miclau*. Additionally, the best poster from last year's Annual OTA Meeting will be presented at this year's Annual ORS meeting.

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

Lisa K. Cannada, MD

The OTA completed its match for the class of 2010. There were 110 registrants using the San Francisco match website, 84 applicants completed paperwork for participation in the match. There were 69 applicants who matched and 12 unfilled positions for the scramble. With the first year of any new process subject to issues, we have taken into consideration all suggestions for improvement. Overall, the match appears to be a success, from both the applicant and program standpoint. It is interesting to know that the AAOS is mandating a universal match for the match year 2011, with a match date of May 15, 2010. The OTA will participate in the match. AAOS will use SF Match, which is the same organization we used. However, our schedule will remain the same with the applications. Look for details on the SFMatch and OTA website.

With increasing numbers of applicants for trauma positions becoming a serious concern, there is also an increasing number of fellowship programs. There are no set rules or regulations for trauma fellowships other than at least someone being an OTA member. In October, the BOD asked for a proposal from the committee regarding this issue. We will keep you informed.

Please contact the OTA office if you have any thoughts or opinions on match process and any criteria you feel should be in place for fellowship programs. Thanks to all of you who help make the match a success.

For new fellows applying for jobs and/or getting ready for Oral Boards, look for the new updated versions of the How to Find Your First Job in Orthopaedic Trauma and Taking Part II of the Board Exam on the OTA website. In addition, the Young Practitioner Lectures from 2008 are all available on the website. If you have any other suggestions, thoughts or opinions, please feel free to contact us at ota@aaos.org or lcannada@slu.edu.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

David C. Teague, MD

The Education Committee remains engaged in a number of courses and activities.

- The **review of AAOS Instructional Course proposals** is well underway, with *Michael Stover* and *Paul Dougherty* leading that effort.
 - The continuous updating of the **Residents Slide Project** remains on track for the third edition overhaul during the next two years, with *Thomas Higgins* and a host of section editors in charge.
- Both of the above processes present volunteer opportunities annually.
- The newest **OKU Trauma 4 Project** is now underway with a strong group of section editors, including *Ken Koval, Adam Starr, William Obremskey, Roy Moed, Michael Stover, Kevin Pugh, and John Gorczyka*.
 - OTA-sponsored course offerings continue to expand with a **new Orthopedic Trauma Fellows Course** set to run in early April. *Paul Tornetta* chairs this course with a faculty comprised primarily of OTA Presidential Line and generous industry support for scholarships for fellows. Additional information on all OTA Course offerings appear in this newsletter.

Challenges loom in the educational arena related especially to sponsorship of courses, and the Committee is actively working with industry partners and OTA leadership to steer our educational missions successfully.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE 2009

Jeffrey Anglen, MD

Committee members included Jeff Anglen, Tom Higgins, Sean Nork, Ross Leighton and Jim Nepola

- Nominations from the committee for 2009 included:
 - Second President Elect – Andrew Pollak
 - Secretary – James Stannard
 - BOD Member-at-Large – Chris Born

Membership Committee – Michael Sirkin and Susan Scherl

PROGRAM COMMITTEE Andrew Schmidt, MD

There is a new offering at the OTA Annual Meeting – an *International Fracture Care Forum* held on **Wednesday October 7, 2009**, that will contain scientific papers and symposia largely presented by surgeons who work in developing / emerging regions. Bill DeLong, as Chair of the International Committee, will be leading this effort. We are looking for experienced OTA members to serve as volunteers to mentor some of the international surgeons who submit abstracts to this, in order to better communicate their work.

The program committee is busy sifting through 576 abstracts received for the 25th Anniversary OTA Annual Meeting, October 2009.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Congratulations to the Fellowship Committee as we have just successfully completed our first orthopaedic trauma fellowship match! By all accounts, it was successful with only a few minor glitches. This was the culmination of many years of hard work and perseverance by current and former members of the Fellowship and Career Choices Committee, as well as all the fellowship directors.

The Annual Meeting Program Committee in cooperation with our new International Relations Committee are currently making plans to hold a one day symposium for our many international partners to help highlight the orthopaedic trauma care in emerging nations and regions. This symposium will run the day before the OTA's Annual Meeting begins next fall in San Diego. This should be an excellent forum for all to exchange valuable information, and continue to expand what our organization has to offer our international members.

Our Education Committee has been busy finalizing plans for our new **Trauma Fellows Dissection Course** to be held in Boston in early April, as well as the combined spring **OTA/AAOS Trauma Course**, the spring **Comprehensive Fracture Course for Residents** and the **Advanced Trauma Techniques Course for Residents**. In addition, the OTA, in conjunction with the AAOS and the SOMOS (Society of Military Ortho-

paedic Surgeons), sponsored the **4th Extremity War Injury Symposium** in Washington this past January.

Recently the Institute of Medicine released additional information regarding resident hours and the issues related to the prevention of medical errors. They suggested to the ACGME that residents should not be on call for a full 24 hours straight. Rather, the call be broken up with a 5 hour "rest period" "nap" to allow for uninterrupted time ...many questions come to mind on the advisability of this recommendation as well the logistical problems this would entail in terms of cross coverage, additional personnel, costs, and the general decrease in overall resident experience. As well, this would certainly impact those surgical residency programs (and thus those that staff those programs...i.e. members of OTA) that have a trauma center as part of their residency experience. The presidential line did respond however and with Jeff Anglen's authorship, a thoughtful reply to these potential suggestions was generated (see page 8 for details). The OTA's response is going to be published in JBJS in the March issue. I encourage you to read this and respond accordingly, as this subject just adds to the many issues related to manpower and the on call crisis concerns we have tried to address over the last few years.

With that in mind, I hope you all can attend our upcoming Specialty Day program at this year's AAOS. Our guest speaker this year is **Richard C. Hunt MD, FACEP** who is the Director of the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Division of Injury Response for the Center for Disease Control. He will speak to us on this very topic of the on call "crisis" and the concept of a national trauma systems approach to better organize and utilize the current resources available for trauma care.

After Specialty Day, I will turn over the presidential duties (and the private hot line phone number to Nancy Franzon's office) to the capable hands of our incoming president, **David C. Templeman, MD**. I would like to thank all the members of the Presidential line, as well as the current board members and committee chairs for helping me throughout this very busy year and making it a great experience! I would also like to thank all the members of the OTA for being such a dynamic and action oriented group... as you are what makes this organization the model that all other subspecialty organizations in the AAOS aspire to.

And finally I would like to thank Nancy Franzon and the outstanding members of her staff that allow this organization to run in the superb fashion that it does...they are the ones that deserve the credit for making all the things we do actually happen!!!!!!

I hope to see all of you all at Specialty Day in Las Vegas..... JTW

MASS CASUALTY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

Chris Born, MD

The Mass Casualty Preparedness Committee of the OTA is an ad hoc subcommittee of the organization's Health Policy Committee. Its purpose is to develop a cadre of orthopaedic traumatologists who are educated in the principles of disaster management and who are credentialed to act as responders in the event of a significant regional or national disaster.

The committee has had a very active year. The board has approved a personnel change. *Drs. Steve Olson, Paul Tornetta, Dan Horwitz* and *Mark Vrahas* have rotated off and *Drs. Mark McAndrew, Mark Richardson* and *Dave Teague* have joined the committee along with its continuing members, *Drs. Mike Bosse, William DeLong, Andrew Pollak* and *David Lhowe*. *Dr. Chris Born* remains as the committee chair.

Dr. Born was the lead author on the publication of a 2 part article in the JAAOS on disasters and disaster response and also contributed an article to the AAOS Now, "What will you do when disaster strikes?" (December, 2008).

Committee members participated in the EWIDP IV program in Washington, DC (Jan 21-23, 2009) Dr. Pollak was the EWIDP co-chair. Dr. Born was the moderator for the section on disasters and Dr. Teague presented his experience as a responder to the Murrah Federal Building terrorist attack and Drs. Bosse and McAndrew were attendees to the program.

OTA once again sponsored an 8 Hour CME Disaster Management and Emergency Preparedness (DMEP) program given in conjunction with the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma. It was attended by over 30 surgeons, nurses and EMS personnel. This is the fourth time this course has been presented (2004 - 08) in conjunction with the OTA Annual meeting. This course is soon scheduled to be reviewed by the ACS board of governors to become a signature product, similar to ATLS®.

Drs. Teague and Born participated in a closed meeting in November at DHS: "Improving US disaster medical response-the expanding the role of the trauma system and its core constituents" This was co-sponsored by the DHS Office of Health Affairs and the American College of Surgeons. Dr. Teague attended as a representative of the AAOS and Dr. Born as a representative of the EWIPD project team and OTA.

Other organizations that were asked to participate were the ACEP, ACS/COT, AAN, CoN, ASA and AAP. The purpose of the meeting was to explore partnering between the Government and the private sector that could advance the disaster preparedness agenda across the US.

Over 10 surgeons of OTA are currently on the roster of the International Medical Surgical Response Team (IMSuRT) of the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS). Inconsistencies in processing by the Government continue to make full credentialing for deployment a challenge. OTA member *Dr. Elton Strauss* was a member of the team that was deployed to Washington, DC for the Obama inauguration. *Drs. Wade Smith* and *Steve Morgan* participated in the disaster response ramp-up for the DNC in Denver in 2008. There are plans to redistribute by geography the surgeons currently enrolled in the IMSuRT program to one of the three operational IMSuRT teams (East-Boston; West-Seattle; South-Miami). Members will be notified accordingly.

OTA REPRESENTATION AT THE INAUGURATION



Dr. Elton Strauss with the International Medical Surgical Response Team (IMSuRT-East) at the inauguration.

UPCOMING COURSE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

* * * Tuition and Travel Scholarships Available for Spring Resident's Courses & Fellow's Course * * *

Comprehensive Fracture Course for Residents

March 26 - 28, 2009

Rosemont, Illinois

(http://www.ota.org/meetings/09%20RCFC%20Chicago_Folder/09_RCFC%20Spring.html)

Recommended for PGY 2-3's

Course Directors: **Kevin J. Pugh, MD**
and **David F. Hubbard, MD**

Orthopaedic Trauma Fellows Course

April 3 - 4, 2009

Boston, Massachusetts

This course is restricted to trauma fellows.

Please contact the OTA office for details.

Course Director: **Paul Tornetta, III, MD**

Advanced Trauma Techniques Course for Residents

April 24 - 25, 2009

St. Petersburg, Florida

(http://www.ota.org/meetings/09%20RATTC/09_RATTC_general_info.html)

Recommended for PGY 4-5's

Course Directors: **James P. Stannard, MD**
and **Thomas F. Higgins, MD**

Kathryn Cramer Research Award

AO North America is proud to accept grant applications from residents and fellows with an M.D. or D.O. degree pursuing careers in orthopaedic traumatology and orthopaedic traumatologists in their first two years of practice.



Examples of projects to be considered for funding:

- Research support via direct stipend for residents, for living expenses incurred during active, fulltime participation in pre-existing research projects.
- Traveling fellowship to multiple AO faculty sites, nationally and internationally.
- Travel for involvement in charitable programs.
- Research grant support (direct costs only) for new resident research projects.

The Award budget maximum is \$15,000.00 per year. We encourage application of grants up to this level. The Kathryn Cramer Memorial Award Committee will decide and distribute one or more fellowship grants, with total outlay up to \$15,000.00, based on the number and quality of the applications.

Deadline for applications is March 15th.

For further details, please contact AO North America or www.aona.org.

CFO REPORT FROM 10/08 OTA MEETING

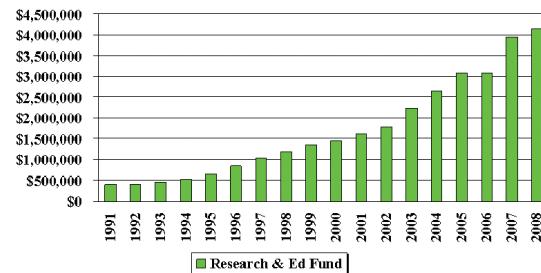
Alan Jones, MD

This has to be the toughest volunteer job of all during these economic times. Thanks to Alan for his efforts. (*Editor's Note*)

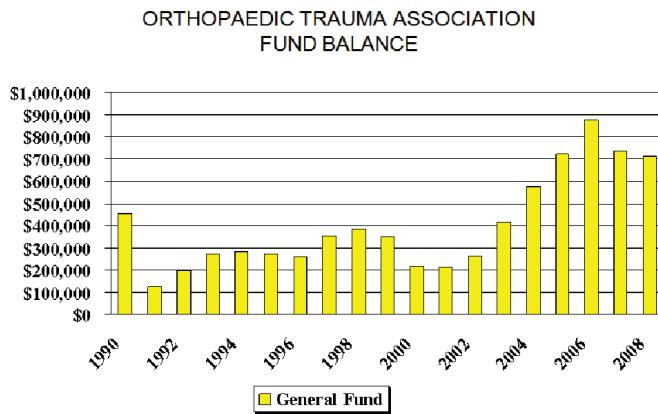
- General Fund
 - Strong fund balance of \$700,000
 - YTD Revenue exceeds expenses despite \$20,000 loss at Specialty Day
 - Plan to transfer \$300,000 to R&E fund
- Research & Education Fund
 - 14.8% unrealized loss of portfolio YTD as of 9/30.
 - Current exposure
 - 61% stocks
 - 32% bonds
 - 7% cash

- Unlikely to see a rapid recovery of losses
- The future
 - The future of industry support is uncertain given Advamed
 - Consider rebalancing of R&E

ORTHOPAEDIC TRAUMA ASSOCIATION
FUND BALANCE



Continued on page 8.

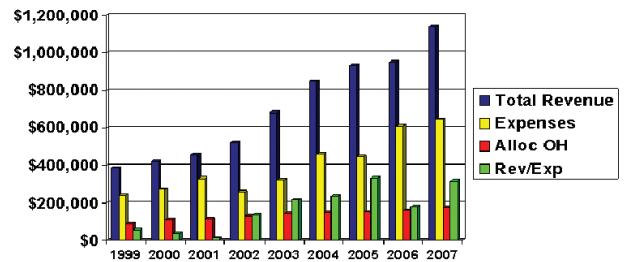


THE EVEN SHORTER THAN 80 HOUR WORKWEEK PROPOSAL

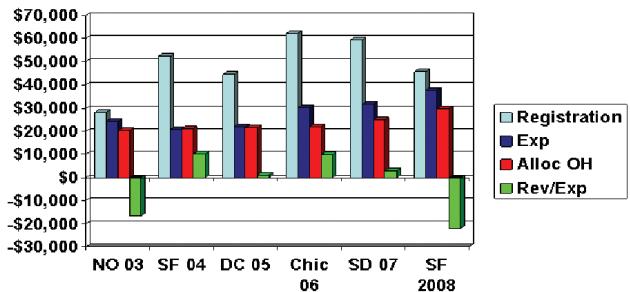
The Institute of Medicine (IOM) has put forth a proposal for further reduction in the current 80 hour workweek for residents. The Presidential line of the OTA wrote a strong letter to Thomas J. Nasca, Chief Executive Officer of ACGME, regarding thoughts on further workweek reduction for orthopaedic residents. Key points the Presidential Line made include:

- We believe that if the recommendations of this IOM committee were adopted by the ACGME, the result would be detrimental to the care of trauma patients and the training of Orthopaedic residents in the United States.
- We agree with the committee that there has been inadequate time and effort to study the effects of the introduction of the 80-hour work restrictions instituted in 2003. The report notes that there has been a "lack of any comprehensive attempt to document changes...and their impact, if any, on...patient safety." (IOM report S-15) and "the full effects" of the 2003 duty hour regulations remain unclear (IOM report p 4-19). Nonetheless, they go on to recommend further restriction in resident duty hours. We believe that it is dangerous and imprudent to make disruptive, expensive and potentially harmful regulatory changes to correct a problem that is not documented to exist, particularly without adequate study of the effects of duty hours on patient safety and educational efficacy. Changes in resident duty hour regulations should be based on the results of such research, in the same manner that changes in medical care should be based clearly on scientific evidence.

Annual Meeting Revenue/Expense



Specialty Day



- We strongly urge the ACGME not to adopt any of the proposed changes contained in the Institute



of Medicine report unless and until further study documents the need for change and a favorable risk/benefit ratio for the proposed restrictions, and certainly not until adequate funding mechanisms are solidly in place.

Thanks to the Presidential line for their efforts. Please e-mail any thoughts, comments to ota@aaos.org.

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