

## SPECIAL REPORT

### 772 A Single, Unified Graduate Medical Education Accreditation System

Boyd R. Buser, DO

## ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS

### 775 Establishing the Content Validity of Palpatory Examination for the Assessment of the Lumbar Spine Using Ultrasonography: A Pilot Study

K. Aaron Shaw, OMS IV; John J. Dougherty, DO; Kevin D. Treffer, DO; and Alan G. Glaros, PhD

An objective means to identify somatic dysfunction has long eluded manipulative medicine. The authors continue the search for a standardized, reliable, and reproducible way to meet evidence-based criteria. In this pilot study, ultrasonography was used to assess the validity of palpatory examinations, testing whether noninvasive imaging technology will accomplish what electromyography, kinematic analyses, myoelectric data, and thermography have not.

### 783 Depression, Somatization, and Somatic Dysfunction in Patients With Nonspecific Chronic Low Back Pain: Results From the OSTEOPATHIC Trial

John C. Licciardone, DO, MS, MBA; Robert J. Gatchel, PhD; Cathleen M. Kearns, BA; and Dennis E. Minotti, DO

The OSTEOPATHic Health outcomes In Chronic low back pain Trial (OSTEOPATHIC Trial) was a randomized controlled trial designed to study the effects of osteopathic manual treatment in managing chronic low back pain. In this article, the authors report baseline levels of depression, somatization, and somatic dysfunction in this patient population.

## SPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS

### 792 Pharmacology of Kratom: An Emerging Botanical Agent With Stimulant, Analgesic, and Opioid-Like Effects

Walter C. Prozialeck, PhD  
Jateen K. Jivan, BS  
Shridhar V. Andurkar, PhD

Kratom, or *Mitragyna speciosa*, is a plant indigenous to Southeast Asia that produces complex stimulant and opioid-like analgesic effects if consumed. US individuals are increasingly using kratom for the self-management of pain and opioid withdrawal. Although kratom is still legal, the US Drug Enforcement Administration has placed kratom on its "Drugs and Chemicals of Concern" list. The authors review the availability, user habits, and health effects of kratom.

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## SPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS (continued)

### 800 International Health Electives: Strengthening Graduate Medical Education

Sidney Coupet, DO, MPH

Global health initiatives and physician shortages are at the forefront of US health policy discussions. To address these challenges, the author proposes the implementation of international health electives, or rotations abroad, into graduate medical education programs. The author describes how these programs could strengthen residency programs while making them more appealing to qualified candidates.

## CASE REPORT

### 805 Manipulation of the Coccyx With Anesthesia for the Management of Coccydynia

Scott S. Emerson, DO  
Arthur J. Speece III, DO

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Brian R. Poustinchian, DO  
Daniel J. Pohlman, MD

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## About the Cover

Beginning on page 775, K. Aaron Shaw, OMS IV, and colleagues investigated the use of ultrasonography to examine the content validity of segmental motion evaluations using ultrasonographic measurements and to investigate the implication of these results for understanding the effects of osteopathic manipulative treatment applied to somatic dysfunction in the lumbar spine. On the cover, Kevin D. Treffer, DO, applies osteopathic manipulative treatment to a study participant.

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