

The Journal of the American Osteopathic Association



The Journal of the American Osteopathic Association

(JAOA) encourages osteopathic physicians, faculty members and students at colleges of osteopathic medicine, and others within the health care professions to submit comments related to articles published in the JAOA and the mission of the osteopathic medical profession.

The JAOA's editors are particularly interested in letters that discuss recently published original research.

Letters must be submitted online at <http://www.osteopathic.org/JAOASubmit>.

Letters to the editor are considered for publication in the JAOA with the understanding that they have not been published elsewhere and are not simultaneously under consideration by any other publication. All accepted letters to the editor are subject to editing and abridgment.

Although the JAOA welcomes letters to the editor, these contributions have a lower publication priority than other submissions. As a consequence, letters are published only when space allows.

Landmark Article Supports Osteopathic Medicine

To the Editor:

On June 1, 2015, *Nature* published a landmark article titled “Structural and Functional Features of Central Nervous System Lymphatic Vessels” by Louveau et al.¹ The authors used high-power microscopy to discover functioning lymphatic vessels lining the dural sinuses in mice, which had not been described before.¹ No one has been able to identify structures that could support the claim that the central nervous system has lymphatics. Now we have evidence.

This amazing discovery will transform several fields of science and medicine—for example, parts of the fields of anatomy, neuroimmunology, and neuroscience. Textbook chapters will have to be rewritten.

Most obviously, their discovery helps to validate, in some ways, what osteopathic physicians have been saying for more than a century. The second edition of *Foundations for Osteopathic Medicine* states that “Osteopathic manipulative treatment in the head region is based on anatomy and physiologic function of the neurologic, vascular, muscular, articular, and lymphatic systems.”² Now is the time for osteopathic medicine to blossom and flourish. I am pleased that hard basic science has provided evidence for what osteopathic physicians have been doing clinically since the time of Andrew Taylor Still, MD, DO. The osteopathic medical profession should take a moment to read this article.¹ (doi:10.7556/jaoa.2015.134)

Carl Hoegerl, DO, MSc, MSIT

Liberty University College of Osteopathic Medicine,
Lynchburg, Virginia

References

1. Louveau A, Smirnov I, Keyes TJ, et al. Structural and functional features of central nervous system lymphatic vessels [published online June 1, 2015]. *Nature*. 2015;523(7560):337-341. doi:10.1038/nature14432.
2. Scott RA, Kuchera ML, Patterson JJ. Orthopedics. In: Ward RC, executive ed. *Foundations for Osteopathic Medicine*. 2nd ed. Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins; 2003:484.

© 2015 American Osteopathic Association

Correction

The *JAOA* regrets several errors that appeared in the following article:

Florentine BD, Helton RJ, Mitchell MM, Schmidt KE, Kozlov DB. Accuracy and adequacy of computed tomography-guided lung biopsies: experience from a community hospital. *J Am Osteopath Assoc*. 2015;115(10):592-603. doi:10.7556/jaoa.2015.120.

In lines 7 and 8 of the Results section, the number of female and male patients should have been 113 and 103, respectively. In the title of Table 3, “Biopsy Specimens” should have appeared as “Lesions.” In the Author Contributions section, in addition to the authors listed, Dr Kozlov drafted the article or revised it critically for important intellectual content, and Dr Florentine gave final approval of the version of the article to be published.

These changes will be made to the electronic versions of the articles online. (doi:10.7556/jaoa.2015.142)