



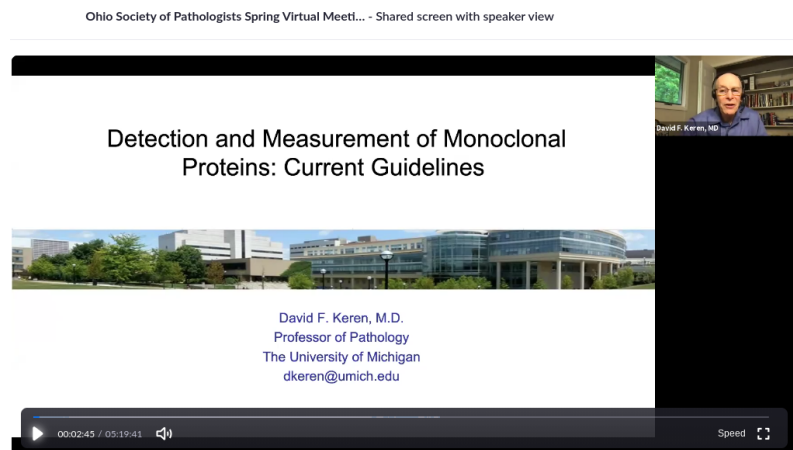
Ohio Society of Pathologists

Summer Update

July, 2021

Semi-annual meetings:

The Ohio Society of pathologists teamed up again with CAP to provide our second virtual meeting on 5/22/2021. If you attended the meeting, you can view the lectures [on the OSP website under "Meetings"](#), where you can also complete any pending evaluations to ensure you receive your CME.



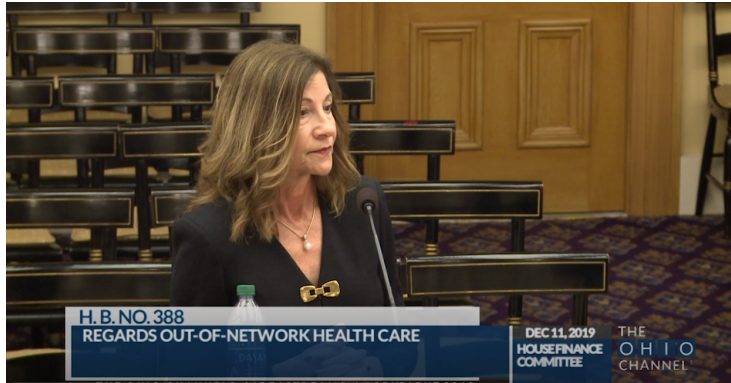
SAVE THE DATE: 10/21/2021 - Our next meeting, which will again be virtual. We look forward to seeing you all there!

YOUR INPUT REQUESTED: Please complete the following survey to provide our board and program planning committee information as they decide whether to continue offering in-person or virtual meetings in 2022.

SURVEY LINK: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FNFP8GK>

Legislative update

OSP's legislative efforts regarding out-of-network (OON) billing continued since the last annual meeting, including another round of in-person testimony in opposition to Ohio House Bill 388 (HB388). Complicating the issue, the federal "No Surprises Act" was introduced at the end of 2020, which addresses the same issues at a federal level. Both OSP and CAP feel the federal bill is a superior solution and numerous stakeholders withdrew support from HB388 at the last moment. However, the HB388 still passed, with lawmakers citing the desire an Ohio-based solution.



OSP's efforts continued in the OSMA annual House of Delegates meeting, where Dr. Bob Gurdak and Dr. Sean Kirby sponsored and ultimately passed a resolution that forms an OON billing working group. The new OSMA working group will determine the need for further legislative action and also oversee the implementation of the state law. [OSP's comments to the Ohio Department of Insurance \(ODI\) concerning the implementation of HB388 can be found on the OSP website.](#)



Cigna backpedals policy to stop payments

After Cigna announced plans to cease payments for the professional component of clinical pathology services (PCCP) billed with the 26 modifier, [OSP issued a letter](#),

enlisting the assistance of the Duane Morris legal firm. OSP was joined by CAP, numerous other state societies and individual pathology groups in opposition to the change. A relatively quick response from Cigna signaled that the payer would suspend it's plans to implement the policy and they are currently slated to continue paying for PCCP services.

OSP signs letter opposing anti-vaccination legislation

Recent legislation was proposed in the Ohio House of Representatives (House Bill 248-11, HB248-11), which could undo decades of public health improvements attributed to vaccination programs. The legislation is being discussed as a way to prohibit mandatory COVID-19 vaccination, but in fact the law would prohibit ALL mandatory vaccines. Current Ohio law does allow for exemptions to mandatory vaccines, including those required by schools and businesses. Whether or not revision of those laws is warranted, HB248-11 is being denounced by numerous medical societies as an extremely dangerous proposal. [Therefore, OSP joined a robust coalition of medical associations and hospitals led by OSMA in opposition.](#)

In memoriam: Dr. Victor Hinrichs, MD



Past OSP president, Dr. Victor Hinrichs, MD passed away on 2/13/2021 at age 91 from complications of SARS-CoV-2. In addition to his service to OSP, Dr. Hinrichs served on staff at the Ohio State University and University of Cincinnati Colleges of Medicine. His family asks that you consider a donation to the Life Care Fund at Ohio Living Westminster Thurber, or to the Music Fund at All Saints Lutheran Church, Worthington, Ohio. [His full obituary can be found on the OSP website.](#)

Change to bylaws

A vote will be held at the next OSP meeting (10/21/21) to remove the endorsement clause from the section regulating membership application. This clause has been problematic for the OSP board and staff, particularly as digital submissions become more common. Qualifications of applicants will still be investigated by the board prior to acceptance. [The full “code of regulations” may be reviewed on the OSP website.](#)

2.041 ENDORSEMENT OF APPLICATION: Applications for active and associate shall be endorsed by signature of two active members of this Society who are personally acquainted with the applicant. Applications for resident members shall be endorsed by the applicant’s program director.

Contact Info:

Ohio Society of Pathologists

Hillcrest Hospital, Pathology, 2nd floor atrium

6870 Mayfield Road

Mayfield Heights, Ohio 44124

