

Introduction

“Times they are a changing” Never has this statement been more appropriate when applied to the practice of medicine. This year’s *Compendium* is packed with great articles and studies impacting the practice of podiatric medicine. Innovation and discovery is at an all time high in medicine and the results of that are presented in the excellent material chosen by our authors for this year’s publication. At the same time, there is a national debate raging about how healthcare will be funded and administered that may forever change the incentives for medical advancement in this society. Everyone should be engaged in this debate. We are the most innovative medical community on the planet and the reason for that is embedded in the fabric of our present system. It centers on the opportunity for reward for those who put in the time and effort to study and develop new treatments and technologies. Any attempt to change this system will forever change the practice of medicine in this and every country that benefit from our advances.

As you read the articles this year, reflect on the quality of the study, the genius of the discovery, and the value of the gains made with each effort. Think hard about the process through which each study was envisioned, funded, and then carried out. After that make up your own mind how best to keep that innovation going and work hard to foster that end.

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