

Oklahoma City Vascular Surgeon Elected as OSMA's 105th President

Doctor K.A. Mehta, MD, an Oklahoma City vascular surgeon who has practiced in Oklahoma for the past 30 years, was inaugurated as the Oklahoma State Medical Association's (OSMA) 105th president at its annual meeting late last month. "It's truly an honor and a privilege to assume the role of President of the OSMA," Dr. Mehta said.

"We are all living in very interesting times, not only for our country but for the whole world. The global economic crisis has affected each and every one of us," Dr. Mehta said. "As I look back at the list of presidents of OSMA who preceded me, my hope is that I can rise to the level of dignity and respect they had earned. I will continue to look to them for mentorship and direction," Dr. Mehta noted.

Dr. Mehta assumed his new leadership role just as Congress has approved an historic overhaul of the nation's health care delivery system. Dr. Mehta said that while OSMA members may have mixed feelings about some of the reforms, they are united on insisting that a looming 21 percent Medicare physician fee reduction must be permanently fixed. "As OSMA president this year, one of our main goals will be to help physicians and their patients deal with these new challenges and realities," said Dr. Mehta.

Dr. Mehta has a long tenure of leadership in Oklahoma organized medicine. He has been active in and has served as Treasurer of the Oklahoma County Medical Society. He also served as Secretary Treasurer, Vice-President and President-elect before assuming his role as President of OSMA.

Dr. Mehta has also been a leader in other medical organizations as well. He has served as Chair of the International Medical Graduates Council of the Oklahoma State Medical Association and has served as a member of the University of Oklahoma Medical School Admissions Board since 1995.

From 1995-1997, Dr. Mehta served as Chief of General Surgery at St. Anthony Hospital in Oklahoma City. Subsequently he served as Chair of the Department of Surgery for two years.

Dr. Mehta is married to Sulabha Mehta, MD a Midwest City pediatrician, and they have two sons, both practicing physicians Aneesh Mehta, MD and his wife who live in Atlanta Georgia and Amit Mehta, MD and his wife who live in Dallas Texas.

OSMA represents over 5,000 physicians and medical students across Oklahoma. Its headquarters is located in Oklahoma City and has 43 component county medical societies around the state. OSMA's mission for over 100 years has been to improve the health of all Oklahomans.