Treating the whole patient
MSU’s Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine is here to help. by Dr. Vincent Cipolla

Osteopathic medicine possesses several tenets that help to define its philosophy. Among these tenets are: The body is a unit of mind body and spirit. The body possesses self-regulatory mechanisms, and the body has an inherent capacity to heal.

It is with an understanding of these that we base our manipulative treatment. When treating the Osteopathic physician treats the whole person and not just body parts, the goal of treatment is to identify the problem and not just treat symptoms.

An analogy would be the orchestra (the body) that is playing out of synchrony. The conductor (the physician) helps to get all the players to function together to perform a beautiful symphony (health). Knowledge of general medical principles plus advanced training in the normal function of the musculoskeletal system allows us to provide the best care for our patients. Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine clinicians treat more than just back pain.

Many conditions may influence our musculoskeletal system and its proper function. Stomach distress, sinusitis, headache, breathing problems, arm and leg pain are among numerous conditions that manipulation has the potential to help.

OMM clinicians care about getting people better in a timely and effective manner. We listen to our patients; we evaluate, and we care. We treat people and not just symptoms.

Written by Vincent Cipolla, D.O., Assistant Professor, Department of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine at MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine.