



# NEWS from the UNIVERSITY of NORTH TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER at Fort Worth

## What is a D.O.? Fast Facts

- There are nearly 57,000 D.O.s practicing in the U.S. today.
- Almost 50 percent of all D.O. students are women.
- A tenet of osteopathic medicine is that the body is capable of self-regulation, self-healing and health maintenance.
- Approximately 65% of practicing osteopathic physicians specialize in primary care areas, such as pediatrics, family practice, obstetrics and gynecology, and internal medicine.
- Many D.O.s fill a critical need for physicians by practicing in rural and other medically underserved communities.
- D.O.s practice a "whole person" approach to medicine. Instead of just treating specific symptoms or illnesses, they regard your body as an integrated whole, consisting of mind, body and spirit.
- Osteopathic physicians focus on preventive health care.
- D.O.s receive extra training in the musculoskeletal system-your body's interconnected system of nerves, muscles and bones that make up two-thirds of your body mass. This training provides osteopathic physicians with a better understanding of the ways that an illness or injury in one part of your body can affect another.

For more information about the UNT Health Science Center at Fort Worth, contact the media office at 817-735-2446.

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### University of North Texas Health Science Center

The University of North Texas Health Science Center comprises the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine, the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, the School of Public Health, and the School of Health Professions. Key research areas include aging and Alzheimer's disease, cancer and physical medicine. This year, the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine was named a top 50 medical school in primary care by *U.S. News & World Report* for the seventh consecutive year. "Fort Worth's medical school and more" contributes \$500 million to the Tarrant County and Texas economies annually. For more information, go to <http://www.hsc.unt.edu/>