

D.O. PHYSICIAN DISTRIBUTION in MAINE

Of the 205 D.O.s licensed to practice in Maine, 189 are in active practice. Of these, 183 are members of the Maine Osteopathic Association. (12/15/77)

Of those D.O.s in active practice in the state, 47 limit their services in specialty areas (4 are in anesthesiology, 4 in pathology, 5 in radiology, 8 are surgeons, 3 are proctologists, 2 are specialists in OB/G and 1 in pediatrics, 4 are practicing only in hospital emergency rooms, 4 are hospital-based directors of osteopathic medicine, 2 are hospital medical directors, 1 is dean of the new regional college of osteopathic medicine, and 12 are specialists in internal medicine.

There are then 139 D.O.s engaged in General Practice in Maine. Of this number, 95 have established their practices in communities of less than 10,000 population - and, of that number, 66 practice in towns of 5000 or less.

It is, therefore, important to note, in discussion of rural health care in Maine, that 74% of the D.O.s in Maine are in general practice and that of that number, 47% have located their practice in small towns of less than 5000 people.

If one includes those physicians in emergency rooms, pediatrics, obstetrics and internal medicine in the category of primary care providers, the percentage of D.O.s in the role of primary care providers numbers 158 of 189 licensed active practitioners or 84% as compared to a percentage of roughly 32% of the allopathic profession in Maine in similar services.

These numbers and percentages correspond to similar choices of practice models at the national level wherein we find 71% of the roughly 800 1976 graduates of the osteopathic colleges have elected to pursue the general practice of family medicine as primary care providers.