



Article: Family Medicine Through the Eyes of a Small Time Doc
CME Cycle Ends 12/31/18 - Need Hours? We Can Help!

Texas ACOFP News & Updates

Meet Katarina Lindley, DO, FACOFP

Katarina Lindley, DO, FACOFP is one amazing person and Texas ACOFP is fortunate to have her on our Board of Governors.

Her personal story began in Croatia and brought her to the U.S. where she became a citizen, a medical student and licensed Osteopathic Family Physician. Dr. Lindley is passionate about many things, including her five young children and husband David, also a practicing physician. But her passion for Family Medicine, her patients and advocating for physician practice rights is striking. Here are her thoughts on Family Medicine, today's challenges and HR3928. Kris Beavers, Executive Director, Texas ACOFP



Family Medicine State of Play - Through the Eyes of a Small Time Doc

It has been 10 years since I finished the residency and this journey took me through many trials and successes. I was one of those young people who knew from day one that I was going to be a family physician. That was my calling and destiny.

This was never just a job. This is who I am. I am also a mother of 5 young children and in this day and age with full time job and car pools, homework, next deadline; it screams of burnout, fatigue, pulling my hair out but also personal satisfaction. I have come a long way...from Croatia to the States and now I am living the American dream.

But there are many challenges in today's family medicine and some of them are healthcare reform and coverage. As a family doc in a small rural town, I struggle at providing care to many uninsured or even the ones who have Obamacare (because it does not pay for much and not many specialist take their insurance). So, now I am a pulmonologist and cardiologist and psychiatrist which is great on some levels because it challenges me to be better.

Now we also have this whole new issue of mid level providers and their encroachment on primary care. First of all, I AM NOT A PROVIDER! I am a family physician or a family doctor or a small town doc. I AM A PHYSICIAN!!! I hate when we are called providers. I read recently that that term was introduced in the 50s for therapist and has recently expanded to encompass all healthcare personnel.

So I was driving along the highway and saw a billboard on how to become a Doctor in Nurse Practitioning by getting an on-line degree. How fascinating! So you can go to school online and then you get to introduce yourself as a doctor. How can you compare that to our 11 years of training and sleepless hours. I think we should all think about supporting HR3928 Truth in Advertising Act of 2017 in which it will be unlawful for any person to make any deceptive or misleading statement or engage in any misleading act that misrepresents whether such person holds a State health care license or misrepresents education, training, degree, license or clinical expertise. We owe it to ourselves, our medical students and our patients to stand up for the fact that we are proud to be family physicians.

So, now we are back to the beginning. It has been 10 years since I graduated from the residency and I would do all of this again because I am proud of who I am, I love who I am and I am a small town family doc.

Katarina Lindley, DO, FACOFP

CME Cycle Ends 12/31/2018 - Need Extra Hours? We're Here to Help!



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