

The proposed amendment comports with the language employed in the definition of medical or dental group on page 10 as follows:

"(3) The term 'medical or dental group' means a partnership or other association or group of persons licensed to practice medicine or surgery in the State, or of persons licensed to practice dentistry in the State, or of both, who, as their principal professional activity and as a group responsibility, engage or undertake to engage in the coordinated practice of their profession primarily in one or more group practice facilities, and who (in this connection) share common overhead expenses (if and to the extent such expenses are paid by members of the group), medical and other records, and substantial portions of the equipment and the professional, technical, and administrative staffs, and which partnership or association or group is composed of at least such professional personnel and make available at least such health services as may be provided in regulations prescribed under this title." (Italic supplied.)

The attached extract from Health Manpower Source Book, Section 14, Medical Specialists, Public Health Service Publication No. 263, which refers to doctors of osteopathy as physicians (D.O.), shows as of 1962 the type of practice and type of specialty of physicians (M.D.) and physicians (D.O.), and summarizes the number of full- and part-time specialists for medical and for osteopathic physicians.

Incomplete returns reported in a Statistical Study of the Osteopathic Profession, compiled by the American Osteopathic Association, show that, as of December 31, 1964, there were 1,261 in small partnership and 470 in group practice. The number is increasing and the benefits of H.R. 9256 should provide additional stimulus.

Sincerely yours,

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PHYSICIANS (M.D. AND D.O.)

The total supply of physician manpower in the United States, Puerto Rico, and other U.S. outlying areas numbered almost 274,000 physicians (M.D. and D.O.) in mid-1962. Included in this total were about 259,000 physicians (M.D.) and some 14,700 physicians (D.O.). These numbers are based on individual physician punchcards supplied by the American Medical Association and the American Osteopathic Association to the Public Health Service. All interns and residents in training programs are included whether United States, Canadian, or foreign doctors.

The 1962 ratio is 144.7 physicians (M.D. and D.O.) per 100,000 population, about the same as in 1940. This ratio is above the 1931 level of 136 and below the 1949 level of 146.8 (table 17).

TABLE 17.—Number of physicians (M.D. and D.O.) and physician-population ratios, 1931-62

Item	48 States and District of Columbia			50 States, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and outlying areas	
	1931	1940	1949	1960	1962
Population, including Armed Forces abroad (in thousands, as of July 1).....	124,149	132,122	149,188	183,239	189,209
Number of physicians.....	168,906	191,043	218,977	264,193	273,770
Physicians (M.D.) ¹	158,406	178,643	206,277	249,989	259,105
Physicians (D.O.) ²	10,500	12,400	12,700	14,204	14,665
Physicians per 100,000 population.....	136.0	144.6	146.8	144.2	144.7
Physicians (M.D.).....	127.6	135.2	138.3	136.4	136.9
Physicians (D.O.).....	8.4	9.4	8.5	7.8	7.8

¹ Includes all interns and residents in training programs; see tables 1 to 3 for adjustment.

² Estimates for 1931-49 based on numbers surviving from all D.O.'s graduated from U.S. schools; later data based on individual physician punchcards provided by the American Osteopathic Association to the Public Health Service as of Dec. 31, 1959, and 1961.