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## **Ikemefuna Okwuwa, MD, sworn in as TAFP President**

ADDISON, TEXAS — Ikemefuna Okwuwa, MD, of Odessa, Texas, was sworn in as president of the Texas Academy of Family Physicians during the 2025 Annual Session and Primary Care Summit in Addison. Okwuwa assumed his duties Nov. 15 at TAFP's annual awards lunch.

In his inaugural address, Okwuwa reminded colleagues that caring for patients is why they wanted to be family medicine physicians, and spoke about the need to heal the fractured health care system.

"Too often, our payment system still rewards and prioritizes volume over value and quantity over quality," Okwuwa said. "We are long past overdue for a change in this system.... Healing our health care system starts by valuing those who heal."

Okwuwa serves as residency program director for the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center of the Permian Basin and is chairman of the board of directors for Permian Basin Health Network, a physician-hospital organization. He graduated from the University of Benin Medical School in Benin City, Edo State, Nigeria, and completed residency training at the same Texas Tech program where he is currently employed. He previously served as the new physician member and an at-large member on TAFP's board.

During his year as TAFP president, Okwuwa will work with other officers to lead the Academy: Immediate Past President and Board Chair Lindsay Botsford, MD; President-Elect Adrian Billings, MD, PhD; Treasurer Puja Sehgal, MD; and Parliamentarian Lane Aiena, MD.

Family physicians like Okwuwa are qualified to work in all major medical areas and trained to treat more than 90% of all cases they encounter. Family physicians care for patients of all ages.

*The Texas Academy of Family Physicians is the premier membership organization dedicated to uniting the family doctors of Texas through advocacy, education, and member services, and empowering them to provide a medical home for patients of all ages. It has 33 local chapters and is a chapter of the American Academy of Family Physicians. Visit [www.tafp.org](http://www.tafp.org) for more information.*