

As a solo private practitioner and attorney in Orlando, Florida, I have served on **58** AAD committees and chaired **11** of them. I am a \$5,000 platinum supporter of SkinPAC and have received 7 presidential commendations. I am one of five members of the Academy selected to receive Honorary Membership at our 2020 annual meeting based upon my contributions to the specialty and the Academy.

Today we face problems that were unforeseeable when I first got involved with the Academy in 1982. From Florida to California, from Indiana and Wisconsin to Mississippi, nurse practitioners and PAs are seeking independent practice. The American Association of Nurse Practitioners has stated that "it is well established that patient outcomes for NPs are comparable or better than that of physicians." We must stress not only our extensive education, but also our quality of care and cost effectiveness. This is true – the public must know it.

The face of the Academy has changed. Once upon a time, the overwhelming majority of our members were in solo or group private practices. Now we are employed by academic medical centers, hospitals, equity partnerships, industry, research, and the military. We must broaden the scope and means of delivering of our management and educational offerings to meet their needs.

I have represented us to CMS, private insurance carriers, the AARP, and others fighting for access, coverage, and reimbursement. When Medicare attempted to ratchet down and deny coverage for Mohs surgery, for example, I worked with five national and three major state organizations to preserve coverage and reimbursement. When women with psoriasis were to be denied the use of biologic agents unless they first failed on methotrexate, I worked with the Psoriasis Foundation and others to negate this attempt.

We now face major reimbursement challenges. CMS will be implementing new criteria for E&M codes and introducing Medicare Value Pathways into the MIPS program next year and will continue to challenge our use of modifier -25 and global periods. It is imperative that we successfully face these challenges. As Chair of the Section of Health Practice, Policy and Research for six years, I dealt with every aspect of coverage, policy and reimbursement. On the state level, I have successfully represented the Florida Society of Dermatology & Dermatologic Surgery to our Medicare carrier for over 25 years and presently chair the Specialty Society Section of the Florida Medical Association on whose Board I sit.

It would be my privilege to continue to work tirelessly for you as your president.

I respectfully ask for your vote. Thank you!



Clifford Warren Lober
M.D., J.D., F.A.A.D.
Candidate for
President-Elect