



## AMA DELEGATION ELECTION Personal Statement

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### **Dave Downs, MD, FACP, Personal Statement for Election to the Colorado Medical Society Delegation to the American Medical Association**

I have practiced primary care internal medicine in Colorado for 35 years. I understand the challenges we face from payers and the support needed for us to practice high-quality, evidence-based medicine. Perhaps most important, I understand the need to sustain the intimate relationships we have with our patients. I have seen the benefits and pain caused by well-meaning policymakers who make decisions without understanding the complex world we work in.

I have now served on the Colorado delegation to the American Medical Association for several years. I began as somewhat of a skeptic, having disagreed with AMA policy over the years. I found the organization to have arcane, sometimes byzantine, processes and politics. At the same time, it is one of the most democratic institutions I've worked in and offers a venue in which ideas, presented properly, are given a full vetting.

As the country continues to evaluate massive changes in how health care is structured and financed, the voice of the AMA is important and influential in the evolution of the health care environment. Our delegation is your avenue to express your concerns, aspirations and doubts into the process of policy development within the single largest physician organization in our country.

While physicians see different paths to a better practice environment and alternative strategies to make safe, affordable, high-quality care available to everyone, I feel strongly that a consensus that respects differing points of view can be developed and that the AMA is a great place to begin the process of achieving that. Given our current political environment, consensus building in health care policy is sorely needed.

I ask that you support me in bringing the voice of Colorado physicians to the AMA to promote the best policy options and to move them forward in national health policy development.



## AMA DELEGATION ELECTION Candidate Profile

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### Dave Downs, MD, FACP, Candidate Profile for Election to the Colorado Medical Society Delegation to the American Medical Association

1. **Name:** David A Downs, Jr., MD
2. **City:** Denver, Colorado.
3. **Employment:** Formerly Kaiser Permanente, now retired.
4. **Specialty:** Internal Medicine.
5. **Organized Medicine experience:**
  - a. Colorado Medical Society member since 1986
    - Past CMS president.
    - Co-founder and co-chair of Physicians' Congress on Health Care Reform.
    - COMPAC member.
    - Past board member who served on multiple committees and councils (see CV).
  - b. Denver Medical Society member since 1986
    - Past DMS president.
    - Member of the Board and Patient/Physician Relations Committee.
  - c. American College of Physicians Fellow (FACP)
    - Member of the Governor's Council.
  - d. American Medical Association member since 2007
    - CMS Alternate Delegate since 2010-2018
    - Incumbent CMS Delegate since 2018
6. Curriculum Vitae: [\(Attached\)](#)
7. Personal statement: (Attached)



## AMA DELEGATION ELECTION Curriculum Vitae

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**David A. Downs, Jr. MD, FACP, Curriculum Vitae for Election to the  
Colorado Medical Society Delegation to the American Medical Association**

### **Professional Mailing Address**

1021 S. Williams St.  
Denver, CO 80209  
303-522-2349  
Email Address: davedowns1@me.com

### **Recent Employment**

Primary Care Internal Medicine, CPMG (ret. 6/2018)  
Medical Director, Engaged Public (ret. 11/2016)

### **Social Information**

Date of Birth: May 31, 1952  
Place of Birth: Denver, CO  
Married to Debra Parsons MD, MACP

### **Academic Rank and Position**

Assistant Clinical Professor  
Department of Internal Medicine  
University of Colorado School of Medicine

### **Current Hospital Staff Appointments**

St. Joseph's Hospital, Denver

### **Undergraduate Education**

Place: University of Colorado at Denver  
Degree: Bachelor of Arts (Biology)  
Date: August 17, 1978

### **Medical Education**

Place: University of Colorado School of Medicine

Degree: Doctor of Medicine (MD)

Date: May 28, 1983

### **Graduate Medical Education**

Internship: Categorical Medicine Internship

Presbyterian/St. Luke's Medical Center

Denver, Colorado 1983-84

Residency: Internal Medicine

Presbyterian/St. Luke's Medical Center

Denver, Colorado 1984-86

Chief Resident in Internal Medicine

Presbyterian/St. Luke's Medical Center

Denver, Colorado 1986-87

Fellow in Health Policy, Bighorn Center for Public Policy (2005)

### **Certification Examinations**

Examining Board: National Board of Medical Examiners

Status: Diplomate; Date: March 1984

Examining Board: American Board of Internal Medicine

Status: Diplomate (Cert. No. 111730); Date: September 10, 1986

### **State Medical License**

State: Colorado

License Number: 26468

Date: December 7, 1984 to Present

### **Honors and Awards**

Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society (1982)

Archibald Buchanan Award for Anatomy (1979)

*Listed "Best" Doctors: Town & Country Magazine 8/2000*

*Denver Post ~1990*

Excellence in Teaching Internal Medicine, UCHSC Internal Medicine

Residency Program (Multiple)

Community Based Teaching Award, American College of

Physicians (2001)

Volunteer of the Year Award, Colorado Coalition for the Medically

Underserved (2005)  
Community Service Award, Department of Medicine,  
University of Colorado health Sciences Center (2007)  
Community Service Award, Colorado Chapter,  
American College of Physicians (2011)  
Health Care Champion Award, Colorado Coalition for the Medically  
Underserved (2012)  
Laureate Award, Colorado Chapter American College of Physicians (2021)

### **Education-Teaching**

Anatomy Tutor: 1980-1981  
University of Colorado School of Medicine  
Supervised Interns Clinic: 1986-1987  
Presbyterian/St. Luke's Medical Center  
Denver, CO  
Inpatient Ward Attending: 1987-2005  
Presbyterian/St. Luke's Medical Center  
Denver, CO  
Diabetes Lectures for Nurses: 1988-1992  
Presbyterian/St. Luke's Medical Center  
Denver, CO  
Preceptor for Residents Continuity of Care Clinic: 1987-2005  
Preceptor for Foundations of Doctoring: 1998-present  
University of Colorado School of Medicine  
Faculty: Communications Curriculum: 2003-present  
University of Colorado School of Medicine

### **Institutional Administrative Responsibilities**

Medical Staff Positions (Presbyterian/St. Luke's):  
Chairman, Department of Medicine (1991-93)  
Vice Chair, Credentials Committee (1991-93)  
Vice Chair, Medical Center Quality Assurance  
Committee (1991-93)  
Member, Drug Utilization Review Board, Colorado Medicaid  
(2004-2006)  
MMA/Benchmark Physicians

Board Member (1993-97)

Associate Medical Director (1997-99)

### **Professional and Society Activities**

American College of Physicians, Fellow (member 1987-present):

Governor's Advisory Council (1998-2001, 2005-present)

Program Planning Committee for Colorado Chapter (2001)

Judge for Associates Scientific Meeting (2002)

Chair, Health and Public Policy Committee (2005-2007)

Member, Health & Public Policy Committee (2005-present)

Colorado Medical Society:

President and Chair (2007-2008)

Chair, Workgroup on Cost and Quality

Alternate Delegate to the AMA (2009-2017)

Delegate to the AMA (2018-current)

Chair, Cost of Care Committee (2018-current)

Member, Council on Legislation (current)

DMS Delegate (2001-2015)

Member, Cost of Healthcare Initiative (2002-2004)

Member, Board of Directors (2005-2009)

Co-chair, Health Leadership Committee (2006)

Founding Co-chair, Physicians' Congress for Health Care  
Reform (2006-2008)

Past Member, Advisory Council to United HealthCare

Denver Medical Society (DMS):

Chairman of the Board (11/02-11/03)

President (11/01-11/02)

Member, Board of Directors (1997-2003)

Chairman, Patient Physician Relations Committee (1996-97)

Improving Performance in Practice initiative of the American Board  
of Medical Specialties:

Past member, national steering committee

Member, Core Committee, Colorado

Representative, Colorado ACP

Faculty, Learning Collaboratives

Multi-state, Multi-payer Patient Centered Medical Home Pilot:

Physician Advisory Committee and faculty  
Colorado Coalition for the Medically Underserved:  
Past Chair, Health Policy Committee  
Past member, Board of Directors  
Member, work group to develop a standardized benefit  
package for Colorado's small group insurance market  
(developed SB06-36)  
Colorado Regional Health Information Organization:  
Member, Charter Steering Committee  
Colorado Division of Insurance:  
Member, Evidence-Based Benefit Design Committee (2006)  
Colorado Blue Ribbon Commission on Health Care Reform (208 Commission):  
Commissioner (2006-2008)  
Center for Improving Value in Health Care  
Member, Charter Steering Committee,  
Health TeamWorks, Board of Directors (2009-present)  
Colorado Access, Board of Directors (2011-2016)  
Colorado Foundation for Medical Care, Board of Directors (2013)

### **Community Activities**

Volunteer Diver, Colorado's Ocean Journey (1999-2005)  
Instructor, Setu Program, Denver Veterans Hospital (2000)

### **Bibliography**

Corlette S, Downs D, et al. Analysis & Commentary: State Insurance Exchanges Face Challenges In Offering Standardized Choices Alongside Innovative Value-Based Insurance. Health Affairs 32, (2) (2013): 418–426  
Tamis-Jortberg, Downs, et al. Effects of a Glucose Polymer Sports Drink on Blood Glucose, Insulin, and Performance in Subjects With Diabetes. The Diabetes Educator 1996, 22:5 pp 471-487.  
  
Oman, Downs, et al. (10/2001). A Nonsectarian Spiritually-based Program to Enhance Professional Caregiving Self-efficacy. Paper presented at the conference of the American Public Health Assoc., Atlanta, GA.  
  
Oman, Downs, et al. A Transcultural, Spiritually Based Program to Enhance Caregiving Self-Efficacy: A Pilot Study. Complementary Health Practice Review 10/2003, 8:3 pp 201-224  
  
Westergaard R, Downs D. Mesenteric angioedema caused by angiotensin converting enzyme inhibition: A case report and review of the literature. Presented at the Regional Meeting, Society of General Internal Medicine, Vail, CO, 9/2005.